

THE BELL RINGER



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HALL VOLUNTEER

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MBA SPENDS THE DAY AT HARPETH HALL AND
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MBA Celebrates Prom

Seniors Spoon Slyly

By J.C. Gardner
Features Editor

This article is for those befuddled as to why seniors have been spotted running around shirtless at full speed with another senior usually in hot pursuit - spoon-in-hand. Assassin (the Spoon Game) is a challenge in which the seniors participate for glory. Some are hesitant to play at first, but when you see your target, your heart rate picks up, your primal instincts get the better of you, and before you know it you're spoon deep in your best friend, waiting for your next victim.

While we may be in a more feral state than usual during the game, there are rules. Each player receives his target by email; to eliminate his target, he must touch his spoon to the back of the neck or the front of the body of his adversary. The game begins at 7:50 am each morning and ends at 6:00 pm. One is not always exposed to being killed—there are safe zones and precautions one can take. If one is in a classroom with a class in session, he is safe. If one is in the lunch line or actively eating his lunch, he is safe. If one is at an MBA team practice, he is safe. These are the only safe zones on campus. However, one can still find himself secure when he is not in a safe zone. The removal of the shirt with the head out of the collar and both nipples visible keeps a senior safe. Touching a seventh grader also keeps a senior safe, but this stipulation can lead to bad blood, as seen with senior Reid Smith. Mr. Smith assaulted a seventh grader in an attempt to stay in the game. The seventh grader, who wished to remain anonymous, chose not to



MBA seniors stop the dancing for a quick picture.

PHOTO: DJ Who

By Carter Ozburn
Staff Writer

Last month, MBA celebrated its annual prom for upperclassmen. The festivities began with senior pictures on the quad, followed by a lovely catered dinner from Sage. The dance towered over past years' festivities with exciting new light displays from DJ Who.

The excitement surrounding prom began to build long before the dance itself. Every junior vividly remembers watching Reed Sullivan command the entire junior class with his words: "I remember prom last year, it was lame!" corroborating these massive statements with an explanation of how the lack of planning and slim budget led to a function devoid of any energy. When asked to respond to these accusations, last year's class treasurer, Charlie Kost, yelled, "What? No!...

maybe."

Sullivan then set our sights toward the new plan for prom, his magnum opus if you will (A phrasing that was objected to as an example of the Bell Ringer's biased writing). The junior class was pleasantly surprised as Sullivan listed off the amenities offered at this prestigious event, which included multiple smoke machines, a flashing LED display, mirrors everywhere, faceless dancers, and last but certainly not least a 360 selfie "stick." Although "stick" is not the right word, rather "experience" is a more fitting term. At this point, our expectations for prom were pretty sizable, and we were not disappointed.

For juniors, the night began with pictures and dinner with their individual groups. Seniors began their evening with pictures on the MBA quad among their fellow brothers, their dates, their parents, their parents'

dates, and a few interspersed faculty. The groups proceeded to the dining hall for a lovely meal of roast beef. The dining hall was adorned with a slide show informing seniors when they should go to the bathroom and how they should dance. Each senior also received one special-made cookie for the event. One such senior capitalized on the opportunity and collected leftover cookies in the pockets of his tux. Following the dinner, seniors were welcomed by Mr. Gioia's unique and innovative pronunciation of their names to a crowd of parents in the Burk.

After each party of juniors had its own picture sessions and dinners, we stepped into the Frank H. Burkholder Center, and we were enlightened. Everything was just as Sullivan had promised, except on a scale no one

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MBA Says Goodbye to Respected Faculty

Mrs. Stewart Leaves Her Beloved Role in the Junior School

By J.C. Gardner
Features Editor

After over a decade of changing the lives of microbes and young men for the better, Mrs. Fran Stewart will be retiring from MBA. Mrs. Stewart has served as both the director of the junior school and an instructor of the math department during her tenure on the Hill. Her welcoming presence and strong ideals will be missed by students and faculty alike.

While she was evidently a fantastic teacher, Mrs. Stewart really made her mark on most students through her role as the middle school director. Her

bright smile, kind voice, and warm hugs were all outlets for a scared seventh grader in a varsity football coach's advisory. Not only did she serve as a comforter, but she also served as a leader who would always point you in the right direction and have your best interests at heart.

The motto for MBA as we all know is "Gentleman, Scholar, Athlete," the first of which is by far the most important. Mrs. Stewart always harked on that principle and defined a gentleman as who you are and how you act in relation to others, not only paying attention to others but also to the needs of others. Before hearing

what Mrs. Stewart had to say, I, and I am sure any incoming seventh grader as well, was too focused on getting good grades and doing all the work, but as the months went on it became evident that relationships were the most important aspect of MBA and in life.

Mrs. Stewart is a leader through her words and her actions. It is rare to find such a strong leader who finds time to be kind to everyone with whom she comes into contact. Her good nature will be missed and her hugs will be longed for, but we wish her the best in her retirement.



Mrs. Fran Stewart PHOTO: MBA

Mrs. Qian Retires After Influential And Cherished Career

By Reid Smith
Opinions Editor

Beginning her career on the Hill in 1996, Mrs. Maggie Qian faced a unique challenge hardly any other teachers have faced in the past: she could not speak fluent English. Not only was Mrs. Qian born, raised, and educated in China, but she also taught Math there for a period of time, solidifying the role of Chinese as her first language. Faced with an immense language barrier after moving to the United States at the age of 42 with minimal English proficiency, Mrs. Qian expected to never teach again.

However, when MBA offered her a job, she bravely accepted, knowing the challenges that would follow. Mrs. Qian remembers bringing a tape

recorder to the first teachers' service meeting, so that she could listen to the meeting over and over again at home to understand the instructions. Mrs. Qian would use a dictionary to aid her teaching. Her hardworking attitude led her to enroll in night classes at Nashville Tech to improve her English, as well 7th grade grammar and literature classes. Her industrious efforts to learn English through the years paid off, as Mrs. Qian now speaks fantastic English.

While Mrs. Qian might have been overcoming English obstacles, this challenge never hindered her ability to teach and coach Math. Mrs. Qian single handedly built MBA's MathCounts program, winning an impressive eleven state championships since 2003, and earning several

runner-up finishes. I can personally attest that Mrs. Qian's teaching in the classroom is unmatched. I was fortunate enough to have her for two years. First, as an 8th-grader, I was miserable. Mrs. Qian was tough, strict, and pushed us to do our best. I then had her again as a Sophomore. It was one of the most rewarding classes I have taken at MBA. Mrs. Qian was tough, strict, and pushed us to do our best.

Although Mrs. Qian pushes her kids hard in the classroom, she has one of the kindest hearts on campus, and her upbeat personality never fails to bring a smile to your face. The MBA community is going to miss Mrs. Qian, but no one deserves retirement more than her.



Mrs. Maggie Qian PHOTO: MBA

Mrs. Mayhew Retires from Vital Role on the Hill

By Ben McSween
News Editor

Another member of the staff who will be retiring this year is Mrs. Mayhew, and although many students may not be entirely familiar with what Mrs. Mayhew does, they have certainly felt her impact in many ways. Mrs. Mayhew joined the office of Alumni and Development at MBA in 1996. There, she worked specifically as the office and database manager, a position she has held for all 26 of her years on The Hill. From this position, she has been the driving

force behind thousands of campus events, working from the shadows to ensure that everything runs smoothly.

Over the years, this task has become increasingly daunting as she has seen the MBA student body grow from 550 students to over 800 during the 2022 school year. This is not the only change that Mrs. Mayhew has worked through, as she has also been witness to much of the growth within the faculty department, having worked under four different board chairs during her time at MBA. Despite this rapidly expanding student, parent, faculty and alumni population, Mrs.

Mayhew has never been fazed, taking on and rising above the challenge time and time again.

Outside of her office position, Mrs. Mayhew also has many personal connections within the MBA community, as two of her sons graduated from MBA. Additionally, her peers have described her as the "glue of the office" due to her expertise on all things MBA, her work ethic, and her ability to connect with others. Mrs. Mayhew will be sorely missed by all, and we are deeply thankful for her service to MBA.



Mrs. Vicki Mayhew PHOTO: MBA

Mr. Story '00 Moves On After Impactful Tenure

By Edwards Settle
Contributor

The best teachers understand their students, but are unfazed by what these students think about them. They know that some of what students feel is legitimate, but a considerable amount of it is short-sighted or nonsensical. They realize that while many students display brilliance in the classroom, they have much to learn about life, something that these types of teachers are consequently experts at teaching. Teachers with these abilities such as these are often difficult to find, and they stand out from the rest. And it just so happens that we are lucky to have a few of them at MBA.

One of these special educators is Mr. Story. He coaches seventh grade football and baseball, both sports he played when he was a student at MBA. He has a reputation for being one of the best teachers in the history department, teaching AP European History for juniors and Civics for freshmen. I first came to know him as an advisor, something for which I believe he truly has a gift. He and I both share a love of sports and especially Titans football. Every year he forms a fantasy football league, and I've heard from one of his older advisees that they can't remember a

year when he has not won the league championship (until this year, when I won).

He has such a passion for the Titans that he often researches draft prospects before and after the draft. Before the current football season ends, he already has a plan for who to re-sign and who to let go in free agency. Many years the Titans would have been better off carrying out his plan rather than their own. It is this passion for Titans football and ESPN worthy analysis that makes Monday mornings less painful.

Additionally, living up to his name, Mr. Story is a gifted storyteller with an abundance of anecdotes. Often the most surprising moment of the week comes from a story about Mr. Story's days at MBA. Although he loves to entertain us, Mr. Story also has the ability to make students listen to him. Every time a service event appears on the morning announcements, Mr. Story's tone changes to that of complete seriousness, and he asks us to think about helping. He encourages us to take advantage of opportunities, and as a former student of MBA, he knows the ones that are most rewarding and can do a lot for a college application.

Mr. Story also offers advice about social events like prom and

homecoming. I listen intently to this advice and the others in his advisory. We listen because we respect him.

Mr. Story's awareness of world events is impressive. He was the first person to point out the significance of the situation in Ukraine. He mentioned it before my parents did and before my friends and teachers did too. He enabled me to comprehend the gravity of the situation quickly due to his knowledge on the subject as a history teacher and through his clear explanation.

From advice on prom to the war in Ukraine, you never know what Mr. Story is going to share with his class. One day, after telling us to run for student leadership positions, he got the whole advisory involved in the filming of a freshman's student council campaign video.

Amid all of these joyful moments on school days from around 7:30 to 8:00, one stands out from the rest. It started out as an average morning in the early spring of this year. Shortly after I walked into his classroom, Mr. Story told us he was going to leave MBA. This news brought silence instead of the usual laughter. Our advisory was shocked. Yet I remembered what a great advisor he had been, and I knew what a great history teacher and coach that he was. When I have

graduated from MBA and forgotten about tests and the quizzes and many of the other things that seemed like a big deal at the time, I am confident I will remember many of the moments from 7:30 to 8:00 with Mr. Story. Thank you, Mr. Story, for all you have done for me and the rest of the MBA community. You will be missed.



Mr. Roddy Story PHOTO: MBA

Coach Klausner '73 Retires After Distinguished Career

By Ben McSweeney
News Editor

This past March Madness tournament, seemingly every headline tracked the retirement of Coach Krzyzewski's, commonly known as Coach K, and what it meant for Duke's players. Although Coach K deserves all the respect in the world for the various accolades he has accomplished throughout his career, one could argue that the retirement of another Coach K is just as, if not more, impactful, MBA's very own, Coach Klausner.

Mr. Dick Klausner graduated from Montgomery Bell Academy in 1973 before attending Vanderbilt University. While at Vanderbilt, he studied English and was a member of the soccer team. After graduating college and deciding that he was sick of Nashville, Coach K went west, receiving his masters in English at the University of California Irvine, and then later teaching in the San Diego area for a number of years.

In 1996, Coach Klausner answered the call and returned home to his alma mater, being hired on to teach 9th and 10th grade English at MBA. Over time, he transitioned into a college counseling role, dropping 10th grade

English to allow for more time to work on college counseling. Over the years, he has been a guiding hand to freshman and senior alike, leading each through the equally daunting tasks of college admissions and *A Tale of Two Cities*.

Despite the great work he has done within the classroom and admissions, one could argue that Coach K's greatest influence has been felt outside of the classroom, particularly on the pitch. Ever since his arrival in 1996, Coach K has been heavily involved with the soccer program, beginning as a varsity assistant to Coach Lanier before deciding to focus on the junior school program. As a result of his role in the junior school program, he has formed a special bond with each player in the soccer program, watching him grow both on and off the field.

Although his coaching responsibilities primarily revolved around junior varsity and middle school teams, Coach K is still an integral part of the varsity program. He is on the sidelines of every game, both home and away, and even shows up to practice, when he feels like it. Most importantly, though not technically a part of the coaching staff, his advice is still sought regularly by

players and coaches alike. Coach K has mastered the art of integrating his genial, fun-loving personality into his coaching style, telling you what you did wrong in quite literally, the nicest way possible, a far cry from the Irish berating one may receive during a game.

It is for this deep care for not just the program, but the individuals within it as well that Coach K has earned the admiration and respect of generations of players, touching each one of them in more ways than he could ever imagine. Head and shoulders above the rest in admiration, however, is none other than Coach Cheevers himself, as the pair have fostered a relationship that extends well beyond the soccer field. Attached here is a note from Coach Cheevers himself to Coach K:

"I want to thank Coach K for the huge, positive impact he has had on my life, my family, and the hundreds upon hundreds of students during his time here at MBA. We have had some brilliant times coaching together on the sidelines, and he is one of the best coaches that I have ever worked with throughout my career. He has been and will continue to be a great friend in the coming years. Coach K, I just want to wish you the very best of Irish

luck and continue to let the good times roll!"

Needless to say, Coach K's kindness is not limited to just the soccer team, as he does not play favorites but rather seems to seek out the best in everyone. Throughout my time on The Hill, I have never not seen him smiling, and I know that everytime I talk to him, I will always come away from it with a piece of that smile. His presence will be dearly missed next year as his influence can be felt within seemingly every facet of campus. We wish him a happy retirement and want to thank him for his service to MBA.



Mr. Dick Klausner PHOTO: MBA

Long-Lost *Endurance* Discovered in Antarctica

By Noam Friedman
Staff Writer

The 2019 all-school summer read *Endurance* by Alfred Lansing tells the story of British explorer Ernest Shackleton's incredible journey to reach the South Pole. Along the way, disaster strikes, and his ship, named *Endurance*, sinks. Miraculously, though, all of Shackleton's crewmen stay alive through the subsequent fight to survive in the freezing conditions, largely due to Shackleton's great leadership and care for his men.

Though *Endurance* has a slow start, the book quickly picks up pace after the sinking of the ship. *Endurance* was well liked by most MBA students and widely considered to be a good selection for the all-school read. Since then, however, *Endurance* has faded to the back of our minds as time has gone by.

On March 8th, 2022, the ship at the heart of the novel once again made news after its sinking to the bottom of the ocean 106 years ago, as the remains of its shipwreck were finally found. Coincidentally, this date also marks a hundred years since

Shackleton's death from a heart attack.

A search expedition group by the name of Endurance22 found the ship only four miles from its last recorded location. Using top-line cameras, they were able to record quality footage of their discovery. The director of Endurance22, Mark Bound, said, "This is by far the finest wooden shipwreck I have ever seen," as the ship had managed to stay upright and intact for a century after it had sunk. Upon finding the remains, Endurance22 had no doubts of their discovery as the ship still proudly bears its name *Endurance* on the stern.

For a long time, *Endurance* was considered a borderline unreachable shipwreck. The challenges behind finding it included its remote location and the icy water it lay in. An expedition only three years before had ended with disappointment as all contact was lost with an undersea drone. This time around, things were different. With improved technology, an \$110 million donation from an anonymous source, and the guidance of Mr. Bound, the wreck was located on March 5th, 2022, in the Weddell Sea at a depth of 3,008 meters.

The *Endurance* has been protected by a sixty-year-old Antarctic treaty, allowing the cameras to take images that contained stunning details. There were images of an old boot, saw marks from where timber had been cut, cabins, and a number of other well preserved details. It certainly did not look like a ship missing for over a hundred years.

News of the discovery of the *Endurance* has made a lot of us reflect on Alfred Lansing's book *Endurance*. Ernest Shackleton is a hero who goes unmentioned far too often. As a leader, Shackleton had to make hard

decisions under immense pressure. For instance, at one point, he and his men had to make the choice to kill and eat their dogs. He was tasked with keeping many men who were slowly starving and freezing with high morale and in order. Shackleton managed to save every single one of his men. He never abandoned them and put them as a greater priority than both his mission and himself. The next time you find yourself in cold weather, be grateful that you aren't shipwrecked at the South Pole.



The *Endurance* in 1915 just before it was lost to the ice. PHOTO: Wikimedia Commons

6th Grade for MBA? Not So Fast

By Stephen Hagerty
Staff Writer

With eleven Nashville elementary schools recently adding the 5th grade for the 2022-23 school year – and more expected to switch next year – the debate regarding the addition of a 6th grade to MBA is more relevant than ever. Parents who want to shift from public schooling to independent schooling are far less likely to send their child to another school for one year before switching to MBA than just going straight from a public 5th grade to a private 6th grade. With this in mind, without a 6th grade, MBA will be at a great disadvantage when competing for public school admissions.

Despite this handicap, all evidence points to MBA staying at 7th-12th. Just look at the private school system of Nashville. The standard model for the majority of private elementary schools runs from Kindergarten to 6th Grade, allowing for a convenient transition into MBA. Implementing the 6th grade at MBA would undercut these schools, making it much harder for students from these schools to

select MBA.

However, the biggest reason why MBA will not have a 6th grade anytime soon – according to Director of Admission Mr. Ferrell – is a lack of space. Massey can barely hold the 7th and 8th grades as it is, so to add a 6th grade, MBA would have to construct an entirely new building. The extra student population would overflow the lunchroom, the assembly hall, and more as almost all parts of the campus would need some sort of renovation.

One solution might be to separate the 6th, 7th, and 8th grades into a singular middle school with its own facilities. This way, the middle school would have its own lunchroom, assembly hall, etc. However, one would then have to ask what effect this could have on MBA culture. From a cultural perspective, separating the middle school would result in major changes in the dynamic between upper and lower classmen. Unlike other Nashville private schools, MBA does not have a "lower school" or "high school;" it is a complete 7th-12th package. Separating the 6th, 7th, and 8th grades into one school might end up creating the "MBA Lower

School" and "MBA High School," two completely separate educational entities with their own cultures.

Regardless of its plan to implement the 6th grade into the campus, MBA would then need to hire many more teachers to account for the great increase in the student population. MBA would also need to hire construction workers and crew to build the 6th-grade area and obtain the funding for a building. The point is: MBA would need a lot of money to start the 6th grade. Just recently,

MBA was graciously gifted the largest donation in its history by Mr. Burkholder. If MBA were to ever implement the 6th grade, it would have been then. However, instead of pursuing extra space for a 6th Grade, MBA decided to build the Burkholder Wellness Center. This action demonstrates that MBA management is not ready for a 6th grade right now, and likely will not be anytime soon.



The Jack C. Massey building.

PHOTO: Will Schneider

On the Recent Racist Incident at MBA

By Joshua Mi, Isaiah Dulin, and
Jude Bueno
Contributors

In April, we had the opportunity to speak with Jesse Washington, columnist for the *Undefeated* and recent speaker on MBA's campus. In our interview, Mr. Washington recapped his message at assembly. We asked him questions that pertain to the importance of discussion around racial issues within MBA and the larger Nashville community as a whole. Elaborating on his message given previously at assembly, Mr. Washington asked us what progress has been made in the realm of productive conversation on race relations on campus. Given the question, we decided it would be appropriate to speak with Mr. Washington about the recent incident concerning racism at MBA. As we moved into our discussion, he said, "any community that cares about racial equality has to grapple with the true facts of people's experiences."

We took Mr. Washington's advice and asked Jes Johnson to provide his perspective. Neither *The Bell Ringer* nor its writers are offering an opinion on this situation. We are trying to fulfill its duty as a student news publication and to give everyone an opportunity to hear the truth of what happened and formulate his own opinion based on the facts.

By Jes Johnson
Contributor

On April 1, 2022, the crew team headed to the Lindamood Cup in Marietta, Ohio. On the bus ride to Marietta, a racist incident occurred. Three students on the crew team renamed their phones racially hateful names such as "Potton Clicker," "Lynch Them, Dance Monkey," "The Real Black," "Wip Them Massa," "Can I get the N-Word Pass," "KKK," "Who Commits Half The Crime But Makes Up...," "Them Black Stealing My Job F*** Them," and many more. They also airdropped me racist images from their phones. While still on the bus, some of my teammates started to question the students to see if anyone knew who changed their names and airdropped me photos. As Cooper Coleman and several other teammates tried to figure out who was involved, Coach Calico took up everyone's phones and began to interview students.

When we arrived at the course, the coaches sat us down as a team and asked us who was involved. One student admitted immediately and apologized to me, but my teammates and I knew that more people were involved. After this student confessed, the coaches asked me who did not change their names that I knew of. After I identified who wasn't involved, the coaches looked through everyone else's camera rolls and

tried to see if anyone had some of the photos that had been sent to me on their phones. We then set up the boats for the race, ate dinner, and went to the hotel. Once we arrived at the hotel, the freshmen and the sophomores split into different rooms to have student-led investigations, which were spearheaded by Kellan Curnutte and Cooper Coleman. They tried to figure out who else was involved, but unfortunately, no new information was learned. During these student-led meetings, I met with Coach Kesor and we talked about the situation. After we spoke, Coach Kesor and I called my parents, and we told them about what had happened. After the student-led meetings were done, we had a team meeting. The second person confessed later that same night and apologized to me during that meeting. The next morning, the coaches told us to text them our ideas on the identity of the third perpetrator, as there were more names and photos airdropped that were not attributed to the two people who had already come forward. After all the potential suspects were sent to Coach Kesor, he had meetings with all of them in private. After the meetings were done, the coaches made the decision that we wouldn't race. We then took the boats apart and waited for the Harpeth Hall rowers to finish their race, as they had traveled up with us as well. Once they finished, we got back on the bus and went home.

By the Diversity and Inclusion
Student Task Force
Contributors

In light of this recent transgression, the MBA administration and student body have taken progressive steps to create a more inclusive and safe environment. Commissioned by Mr. Gioia, upperclassmen have formed the Diversity & Inclusion Student Task Force, collaborating with faculty and staff to draft new clauses for the MBA student handbook regarding issues of discriminatory actions committed by or against students, faculty, and staff. In particular, Mrs. O'Neal and several D&I Task Force members have been leading the initiative to provide increased structure in the existing system to support everyone and to provide restorative justice to those involved in the hope of educating and healing everyone.

Debate Season Comes to a Close

By Raleigh Maxwell
Staff Writer

The Big Red debaters continued their decade-long dominance of the national competitive circuit by making it to some of the highest-competition rounds in three prestigious national championships over the past month, as well as by making school and national history. The squad is now looking forward to achieving even more victory next year and maybe even some debate vengeance.

Back in mid-March, first and second year debaters competed against the top novice and JV teams from around the country at the 1st and 2nd Year National Championships hosted by Woodward Academy. MBA teams claimed a strong second-place finish in both divisions with teams of Kavneer Majhail and Arish Singhvi in the novice division and Cy Turner and Res Seibels in the JV division.

MBA continued their dominance in the older divisions by making strong showings at the National

Debate Coaches Association National Championships (NDCA) and the most prestigious high school championship, the Tournament of Champions (TOC).

At the NDCA, MBA had the most qualifiers to the elimination rounds with five of our seven teams making it. For reference, only 35% of teams qualify for the elimination rounds. MBA's top team of Senior Jack Pacconi and Junior Chanden Climaco were seeded first going into the elimination rounds after losing zero rounds in the prelims and made

it to the Round of 8 before they were eliminated. Going into the TOC, the Big Red debate team had qualified the most teams of any school in the nation to compete and only missed the national record of seven by one.

Not only did the squad have the most teams, MBA debate also qualified the youngest debater, the eighth-grader Russell Howard, in the field. Russell made MBA history by being the first eighth grader to qualify and also made national history by being only the third ever to qualify at

such a young age.

Jack Pacconi and Chanden Climaco went undefeated yet again in the preliminary rounds, beating the team who placed second overall in the seventh round. Pacconi and Climaco went into the elimination rounds with the world watching and were set back when the power went out during their Round of 16 against the Westminster School. Yet, Climaco and Pacconi prevailed by relocating to a local house of their fellow debater, Marshall Green, who did have power and by winning the round despite their setback.

Pacconi and Climaco made a fantastic finish by making it all the way to the Round of 8, losing on a close 2-1 decision. One more victory worth noting is MBA's seniors Gene Herrmann and Asher Maxwell's defeat of Lawrence Free State High School, the overall winners of the tournament. The team is proud of seniors Pacconi, Herrmann, and Maxwell and looks forward to an even more competitive season next year.



The debate team poses for a team photo. PHOTO: Wikimedia Commons



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The staff of *The Bell Ringer* prepares all copies at Montgomery Bell Academy.

Editor's Note

In Defense of the Senior Slide

By Asher Maxwell

Editor-in-Chief

It comes about like clockwork. Every year, seniors come into their final semester of high school with a little less academic drive and a little less competitive juice. Instead of spending long nights studying, seniors spend more time with their friends and family enjoying their last few months at home.

Many people view this phenomenon negatively. They say it's a sign of laziness and that teachers should not let up on the gas pedal. However, I would argue that the opposite is true. The senior slide is a healthy part of the high school life cycle. Parents, teachers, and seniors alike should embrace and encourage a relaxed final academic semester.

For many seniors, their college applications will only ever include their grades up to their first semester senior year or even their second semester junior year. Thus, students are barely rewarded for receiving stellar grades in the second semester of senior year. As long as they maintain their grades above 85 to avoid taking exams, they face little incentive to push their grades higher. Some will keep up their efforts in pursuit of academic awards at the end of the year, but for most, that goal is uninteresting or unattainable.

In addition, after making college decisions, seniors' attention shifts from what they can accomplish with MBA to what they want to accomplish in their next four years. This change in focus means seniors spend a little less time worrying about their academic performance or rapport with their teachers.

It's not a sign of apathy or a loss of curiosity.

It simply represents a change in priorities for seniors. With only so many months left with their brothers, seniors recognize that they should take advantage of the time they have before they move off to college. Seniors also have many final celebrations and events that take up their final academic semester, including graduation events, proms, and other informal get-togethers.

Adults always advise seniors to take advantage of the time that they have in high school because it will be some of the most fun years of their lives. Doing so requires relaxing academic commitments and focusing on finding time to spend with friends instead of spending time doing work.

In order to facilitate a healthy senior slide, MBA should reduce homework loads for second semester seniors. Teachers should continue to keep classwork and lectures at a similar level, but the out-of-school requirements should be relaxed. AP classes can be kept on target without homework. Most out-of-class assignments will be done with haste and inattention anyway. Additionally, the pedagogical value of homework is questionable at best when it's assigned in large amounts or when it's assigned solely for the purpose of keeping students busy.

Rather than spending their final few months of high school studying and doing homework. Seniors should be allowed and encouraged to relax their commitments a little bit and find time for the more important things in life.

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You Can't Hide Talent: Jimmie Allen in Retrospect

By Aidan Moon
Staff Writer

Nearly two weeks ago, hundreds of MBA students and their mothers, joined by a number of faculty and staff, packed the Burkholder Wellness Center fieldhouse for this year's mother-son event. The atmosphere, the food, and the environment were all of high quality, but nearly every aspect of the night was overshadowed by the man of the hour(s): Jimmie Allen.

The award-winning, multi-time platinum recording artist is one of the brightest young names in the country music scene. He has an impressive resumé, a unique character, and incredible talent, and all of those characteristics were on display during the Mother-Son Dinner. With Allen's being tasked as the night's main speaker, each and every guest was eagerly awaiting to hear what insightful words and pleasant vocals he planned to share.

As the event moved along and members of the senior class gave heartfelt speeches about their mothers, eyes and minds began to wander to the doors, moving in anticipation of the young country star's arrival. With the final round of senior speeches and a number of excellent performances by the bands, Mr. Gioia took the podium and prepared to introduce the honored guest. After masterfully stretching the artist's list of accomplishments to a speech of some five to ten minutes,



Jimmie Allen with senior Cabot Hyde.

PHOTO: Cabot Hyde

Mr. Gioia began looking around for any sign of Allen. There was none. The clock had gone well past 7:00, and the main guest was nearly an hour late.

Finally after a handful of awkward, hushed minutes, a back door opened, and Allen strolled up to the stage. A

thunderous peal of applause spread through the room, and the eager guests watched as the music star took the stage. With an exchange of greetings and the passing of microphones, the much awaited discussion between Mr. Gioia and Allen began.

From the beginning of the

discussion, it was evident that Allen was going to be different from the previous speakers. Despite his bringing continued levity to the night's festivities, a number of his jokes fell victim to the chagrin of certain guests. Many sons and their mothers were not sure what to make of the artist. Captivating stories surrounding his early life, music career, and newfound success were often interspersed with jokes that made some attendees cringe and others chuckle.

Throughout his speech, however, Allen remained at least one thing: entertaining. Whether it be through intriguing details about his record deals, his family life, his songwriting processes, or his aforementioned humor, Allen kept the attention of everyone in the room. Once the discussion between Mr. Gioia and Allen finished, Mr. Allen performed two songs from his latest album. With vocals sounding as if they came straight from the record, Allen impressed every person in attendance and even inspired a number of mothers to dance. After the closing of a heartfelt song about Allen's father, the room erupted with applause as the mothers and their sons rose to their feet. Even if one is inclined to dislike Allen's jokes and manner of arrival, one cannot ignore the entertainment, showing of talent, and masterful performance that he brought to the Mother-Son Dinner.

Endada from the Perspective of a Demerit Hall Volunteer

By Jack Keller
Editor-in-Chief

Three weeks ago, I received two demerits for being out of dress code while playing the Senior Assassin Game (explained in great detail on Page 1). Yes, I had my shirt off. Yes, it was Mr. Tate who gave me the demerits. No, I most definitely did not deserve them.

Regardless of how I got them, the reality was I would have to attend demerit hall the following Saturday. However, I received great news in the form of an email from Mr. Simpson (I wonder who's ever said that before) when he sent me a spreadsheet requesting that I sign up for a time slot to serve my demerits at ENDADA.

Yes! What a stroke of luck. Instead of sitting in Pfeffer for an hour trying to keep myself entertained with a piece of 230+ year-old literature, I would get to spend my Saturday morning outside in the sun, enjoying a cool breeze, and setting up the various tables for the event.

I arrived two full hours before ENDADA was scheduled to begin and could not believe the amount of hectic commotion that was already happening on campus. Cars were lined up all throughout the Massey pickup line, filled to the brim with paintings, African sculptures, and props waiting to be unloaded and set up. Over seventy tables were allotted for the event, each with its own theme or product.

After carrying an entire woodworking set—with completed sculptures included—into the Burk, I took a quick pit stop to reward myself with some procrastination. The first booth that caught my eye was senior Yadev's button making machinism-inator-3000. And let me tell you, this invention was state of the art. In less than three minutes, I cut out a picture from one of many Nat-Geo magazines, laminated it, and then watched it transform into a pinnable button that I wore the rest of the afternoon.

Sadly, it did not take long for Mr.

Frederick to find me and put me back on task. I carried a Baroque-esque painting of Nashville, helped fortify a 360-degree slow-mo camera after the wind kept blowing it over, listened to the orchestra warm up in combination with St. Cecilia, sulked around in attempt to snag a free snow cone, participated in a mass exodus of second hand clothing flooding out of one cheerful woman's small car, and of course took breaks to stay hydrated with Mrs. Pippin. All of a sudden I realized that it had been over an hour since my "service" had begun, and I was surprised at how quickly the time had passed.

The biggest takeaway that I left with was along the lines of "Wow, I can't believe that I enjoyed spending time at an event I was forced to go to." And we were just setting up too! I ended up staying at MBA until around 1:30, enjoying the now lively, bustling campus as well as Paul Butts's Kind of Blue jazz. So, as advice for all you



ENDADA Murals PHOTO: Dr. Onstott

readers out there, please take some time to stop by ENDADA next year. The event is amazing; it caters to all ages, offers up a carefree and joyful atmosphere, and so much time and effort goes into putting it together. Way more than just the half hearted manual labor of a demerit hall volunteer.

Bring the Block Schedule to MBA

By Isaiah Dulin
Staff Writer

To MBA students, the term “block schedule” seems to be associated with a weird and unconventional interruption of the structured monotonous life that school usually entails, but what exactly is a block schedule? A block schedule consists of longer class periods but fewer classes taken in a single day with academic classes rotating days. On paper, a block schedule certainly seems like an unconventional way of structuring a school day because not every single class is taken in a single day. However, there are notable benefits to this new and innovative way of structuring a school day.

One of the upsides of a block schedule is the length of the class periods. In a block schedule, class periods can range from 70 to 90 minutes. While that does sound like a long time, school days feel shorter because you only have four to six class periods in a day. The longer periods allow for a more in-depth in class learning experience. Students are able to ask questions, and teachers have the time to offer insightful explanations. With more time, valuable conversations are able to take place in the classroom between educators and/or among students.

Another significant aspect of block schedules especially for MBA students is longer study halls. Depending on the number of classes being taken, students usually have at least one study hall period incorporated into each of their schedules. Study halls in a block schedule serve not only as a much needed break during the day but

also as an opportunity to finish the bulk of homework that is assigned. On the topic of homework, students in a block schedule frequently find themselves having less homework than their counterparts in a school with a traditional class day. This can be attributed to the length of

“MBA is one of the only remaining private schools in Nashville that does not abide by a block schedule.”

the class periods. Teachers more often than not do not plan lessons that take up the entire class period in a block schedule. The excess time serves as a micro study hall for students. Students also have a longer time to complete their homework assignments because they do not have the same class two days in a row.

It seems like MBA is one of the only remaining private schools in the greater Nashville area that does not abide by a block schedule. University School of Nashville, St. Cecilia, Harpeth Hall, and Brentwood Academy made the change from the traditional eight class period school day to a block schedule. Out of all of the students I have talked to who attend these schools, not one has had anything bad to say about their class schedule. Is it time for MBA to make the change as well?

Keep MBA Schedule As Is

By Raleigh Maxwell
Staff Writer

The day is August 18, 2022. You are sitting in the smoldering heat of the infamous, un-air-conditioned Ball building. You are enduring the last ten minutes of your Calc BC class. Normally, you would have been barely surviving the last period of the second day of school, but this time you're not. It's not a typical fifty-minute class. This class has been going on for the past eighty minutes. This mental and physical misery is the result of the catastrophic decisions that caused the implementation of a block schedule.

Teachers, administrators, and students around the nation have fiercely debated the utility of traditional period schedules versus block schedules. The current class schedule to which MBA adheres is the rotating period-schedule, in which we have every class, every day, and they are divided into fifty-minute sections. Other schools around Nashville, including our acquaintances over at Harpeth Hall, have adopted the overbearing block schedule, in which students only have a few classes, lasting up to ninety minutes, every day. Maintaining the status quo of MBA's schedule-policy is the only logical decision to ensure the mental and physical health of both students and teachers.

Two major issues come to mind with the block schedule. The first is that a block schedule imposes an impossible burden on the attention spans of high schoolers. No high schooler is capable of doing one class's homework for ninety minutes straight. The block schedule effectively requires

students to stay focused on one subject for 90 minutes. One can even compare it to sitting in traffic for ninety minutes.

Proponents of the block schedule may argue that there would assuredly be breaks during classes, but I point out two flaws in that reasoning. The first is that breaks are not necessarily guaranteed because teachers may get caught up in their lessons and continue without granting students a break. The second flaw is that this argument ignores one of the large issues with a longer class time: the difficulty to absorb one subject of content for ninety minutes. One of the many benefits of the traditional period schedule is the diversity of content throughout the day.

The second major issue with a block schedule is the detrimental effect of not meeting with each class every day. Typical block schedules involve six separate versions of a day's schedule that rotate. This discontinuity of the block schedule makes it significantly more difficult for students to stay on top of their schedule and assigned work. Many MBA students have trouble keeping up with their current schedules to begin with, and implementing a new block schedule would only lead to more missed assignments because students are incapable of keeping up with the classes they have the next day. Inconsistency of schedules also causes disparate missed class time. Under a block schedule, when a student misses a day, they miss twice as much time from certain classes and no time from other classes. This can make catching up on work a lot more difficult, which is already stressful due to sports and extracurricular activities. The continuation of the current schedule can make a meaningful contribution to achieving stronger mental health across the student body.

The only argument in favor of a block schedule that holds some water is its enabling of lab periods in classes other than science. However, the only classes that require lab periods other than science are art classes. Obviously, under our current schedule, science classes are afforded extended periods once a week. The arts, on the other hand, are only sometimes given extended periods. Simply using a study hall to create an extended period for an art class can remedy this issue without leading to these longer art periods interfering with other academic classes. To avoid the misery of the block schedule, we must maintain our scheduling policy.



Mr. Tom Markham demonstrating what quality teaching can be achieved with longer class periods. PHOTO: MBA Instagram

HEY MBA:

UNLIKE *THOSE
OTHER GUYS*

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WE MAKE
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ON MY HONOR AS A
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I HAVE NEITHER GIVEN
NOR RECEIVED BENEFIT
FROM EATING AT
CHIPOTLE.
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Musk Will Revive Free Speech

By Simon Cian
Staff Writer

Elon Musk, successful capitalist and CEO of Tesla and SpaceX, deserves to own and run Twitter. His offer of \$54.20 per share puts the company at a \$44 billion valuation. As of Monday April 25, the company has confirmed the deal with Musk which will bring Twitter into a new age of likely free speech reform and transparency. Musk's deal is a huge win for shareholders with his buyout being a 38% increase in stock price compared to the stock price before Musk made an offer.

Musk's leadership of the company promises to revamp Twitter into a bastion of free speech. By implementing or rather removing some of the rules around speech on Twitter, Musk is poised to create a more inclusive atmosphere on the site. While some argue that this opens the door to radical thinking or child-pornography, Musk still plans to keep some moderators intact and keep regulations regarding illegal content on the platform. Musk recently tweeted that "a social media's platform policies are good if the most extreme 10 percent on left and right are equally unhappy." This means that he does not plan to allow Marjorie Taylor Greene to spout right wing nonsense and conspiracies or neo-Nazis to spread racist opinions. Rather it means that some of the politicization of Twitter towards the left will be lessened. This will likely give Twitter

"Musk's leadership of Tesla and SpaceX shows his ability to lead companies to enormous success."

a better wrap on both sides of the isle.

On the topic of Donald Trump, Musk's ownership of Twitter actually threatens Trump's new but dysfunctional media site. Trump himself stated in an interview recently that if he was given the chance to rejoin twitter, he would decline. This should at the very least calm down some liberals who fear that Trump will return and wreak havoc on society. In my opinion, if Trump joined twitter again, it would just be a great opportunity to watch some funny SNL skits.

Musk's leadership of Tesla and SpaceX shows his ability to lead companies to enormous success and renown, which gives me hope that he will be able to reinvigorate Twitter's base. He promises to roll out an open sourced algorithm which will lead

to more transparency in any social media platform than ever before. Both Democrats and Republicans in the House have pushed companies like Facebook and Twitter to be more open about how they organize their content, so Musk's ownership should give hope to those suspicious of social media giant's manipulation of information. Musk also promises to fight spam bots and fake accounts. While some have pointed out the absurdity of verifying millions of accounts, Musk has proposed that a subscription based service

"Musk's leadership of the company promises to revamp Twitter into a bastion of free speech."

could be introduced. By charging \$2/month, one-fifth the price of a Spotify subscription, many spam bots and fake accounts would be removed overnight. Seventy percent of Twitter users say they get their news from the platform, so this subscription would essentially be like paying for *The New York Times*, except you have access to loads more information.

Musk's acquisition of Twitter promises much change for the mostly stagnant company. Whether he succeeds or not is yet to be seen, but his record of creating new innovative companies such as PayPal, Tesla, and SpaceX, all of which were ahead of their time, make me think that Twitter will likely be a success. In an age of culture wars and partisanism, Musk seems well-poised to make Twitter into a neutral and free town hall for the world to engage in debate and argument.



Elon Musk speaking at a tech conference.

Musk Set to Make Twitter Distopian

By Carter Ozburn
Staff Writer

Elon Musk, the 50 year old South African CEO of Tesla, or the richest band kid on the planet, has bought Twitter at a stake of \$54.20 per share. The estimated total for the deal is \$43 billion, which Musk described as his "best and final" offer. When the deal goes through, Twitter will be a completely private company, no longer tied to the wills of its shareholders. Musk has claimed that he will "endeavor to keep as many shareholders in privatized twitter as allowed by law." The same man who will tweet comments about seeing Bill Gates and becoming aroused, now owns the platform.

Now, many will say, "What does Musk gain from buying Twitter?" After making hundreds of millions from his initial offer, Musk has no monetary motive for the purchase. He says that he simply wants to preserve democracy. It's incredible that he is willing to pay \$43 billion for America, for democracy, for freedom. What a guy. Musk has criticized Twitter in the past, claiming that Twitter is currently "failing to adhere to free speech principles" and this "fundamentally undermines democracy." He defended this claim with a simple Twitter poll, asking users if they would like an edit button; 73.6% of users responded with yes, prompting Elon to impart some wisdom by tweeting, "69.420% of statistics are false."

Musk famously loves free speech. However, just last month, he fired an employee on the spot because of some unflattering comments about the FSD Beta on the employee's Youtube channel. John Bernal, an Autopilot employee, has a small Youtube channel, "dedicated to showing honest reviews of production EV vehicles to

educate the average consumer." In a video in February, Bernal showed the new FSD Beta knocking over bollards and was fired a few days later.

The Tesla Social Media Policy makes no mention of criticizing the company's products in public either. This shows a giant disconnect between the Tesla CEO's practice and his preachment. The same man who declares himself to be a "free speech absolutist," requires customers to sign an NDA when buying his newest products.

Now, what will Musk do with Twitter once he has his hands on it?

"As Elon transitions into ownership, beware of the changes and impact this has on on actual 'free speech' in America."

Add an edit button, as stated before. But, he also plans to completely rid Twitter Blue from the platform, arguably the company's most hilarious failure, and ban ads across the app. He also said, "If the Twitter bid succeeds, we will defeat the spam bots or die trying!" Musk plans to completely open Twitter up, with no content review whatsoever, allowing these same spam bots to thrive. Other platforms like Instagram have experienced struggles removing spam without some level of content regulation. The same review board that famously banned Donald Trump from the platform, prompting his creation of Truth Social, is now going to be nonexistent, allowing for Twitter to become a strange wasteland of opinion. Paul Barrett, deputy director of the New York University Stern Center for Business and Human Rights wrote, "Twitter without rules would become a cesspool of spam, pornography, animal torture, hate speech, QAnon conspiracies, 'stolen election' disinformation, and anti-vaccine agitation."

As Elon transitions into ownership, beware of the changes and impact this has on actual "free speech" in America. "Free Speech" means selling user information for personalized advertisements. This "Free Speech" means a market dominated by big tech companies, meaning that everyone's retirement is dictated by their success. "Free Speech" means governmental aloofness, and does not apply to these giant behemoths of the tech world, who will fire employees at will. "Free Speech" doesn't really exist, and Elon's gambit is further confirmation.

PHOTO: Wikimedia Commons

A Newspaper Exchange

THE BELL RINGER STAFF VISITS

JACK AND BILLY VISIT HARPETH HALL

By Jack Keller and Billy Jones
Editor-in-Chief and Sports Editor

Schedule and Classes:

Harpeth Hall's biggest difference to MBA is arguably its foreign schedule. In contrast to MBA's eight period, rotating schedule, Harpeth Hall has only six main periods throughout their day, with each class spanning 80 minutes long. Not all the individual classes are held every school day, which gives students more time to complete assignments, and it offers more variety to their day.

We soon found out that this new schedule offered up more pros than we expected. Because we only had four academic classes that day, split up by a period for lunch, the school day felt much shorter and relaxed as opposed to rushing through eight periods at MBA. Class length provided a calm reassurance as we settled into our work or began notes on a new topic. Surprisingly, we did not find myself falling asleep during the extensively long classes as we thought we would. Instead, a varying class structure kept the class active and engaged throughout the period.

Thankfully, these 100 minutes were not filled to the brim with MBA-styled note lectures but instead offered a more hands on, engaging method of teaching. To summarize, the class style we witnessed went like this: we began with a brief conversation about what our topic would be for the day, followed by any opinions or comments the students had on the matter, then we split up into smaller groups and collaborated on a more hands on project or activity, and finally regrouped at the end of class to discuss on what we had learned.

In the classes we attended, the content and material seemed almost identical to MBA's, but the atmosphere was much different. While in discussion, I thought that Harpeth Hall students were occasionally constrained in their arguments because they did not want to offend other students or teachers. It did not seem like a big issue, yet class discussion was far more conservative than MBAs in terms of contrasting viewpoints.

Lunch:

Your entrance to the Harpeth Hall dining hall can only be described as a harrowing experience. While the MBA dining hall has problems of its own regarding getting people through the line, the lunchline at Harpeth Hall makes Wallace look like an orderly

march of veteran soldiers.

Fortunately, the school is in the process of a brand new renovation of its lunchroom which will hopefully help ease the stress of an entire high school of hungry girls shuffling for their lunch.

The true rock in the system's shoe is a reliance on a single line. Once again, the renovation should help solve these problems.

Just as you dream about transporting yourself back to the more comfortable chaos of the MBA Lunchroom, you find yourself incredibly pleased with the work of the SAGE staff at Harpeth Hall.

I was lucky enough to enjoy some soft chicken tacos with some wonderfully grilled chicken. This was complemented by a pasta station, bolstered by its penne pesto and rolls. Not to mention, the line boasted a baked potato bar to any and all who cared to indulge.

In my pursuit of dressing my side with a full complement of sour cream and cheese, I was led to the salad bar which acted as a physical barrier separating the upper class women from the lower class women. The message was clear and direct.

Senior House:

Of course, our lunch experience was slightly altered by the need for efficiency as far as eating was considered. We had the fortune of visiting on a college signing day. For those who don't know, these days are when five Harpeth Hall seniors get to make their college decisions official by signing the wall of the legendary senior house on campus.

As soon as we finished our last bites, we rushed over with the rest of the Class of 2022 to witness the day's main event. Packed into the two confined rooms of the senior house, the entire class ducked, sat, stood, and squeezed their way wherever they could in order to witness and support their peers as they shared in their decisions.

Each signing was met by a roar and shouts that would give the touchdown celebrations at Tommy Own a run for their money. The school spirit and love between classmates were more than readily apparent.

After the signing concluded, we were summoned out of the senior house whose walls stood adorned with anything and everything rock and roll, by the booming sound of "Cotton-Eyed Joe." In collective synchronization, the Class of 2022 stood in circle after circle as they casually danced their



Jack and Billy with *Logos* Editors-in-Chief Hallie Graham and Olivia Majors.
PHOTO: Billy Jones

way through multiple iterations of the country classic.

The song gave way to song which gave way to song. All the while, pictures were taken, hugs were exchanged, and hackies were sacked. Each cliqué wove its own vital piece of the tapestry that is this most sacred of ceremonies.

Participation was not voluntary but rather necessary. To simply stand aside and watch with a judgeful eye was to condemn yourself to a dooming cynical isolation.

Not belting your heart out to each and every Taylor Swift lyric was to declare yourself an other. Not for your difference but rather for your submitting to a culture that would choose to roll

their eyes on mock rather than to enjoy the simple bliss of dancing, singing, and living, like no one was watching

It is hard to imagine that this group of 100 or so people could be so comfortable and so joyful in one another's company. We often talk here of the advantages of single-gender education; Harpeth Hall senior signings were among the best arguments in its favor.

Perhaps nowhere is a spirit so unified, energy so radiant, and exuberance so pervasive as in the second half of a lunch on a Harpeth Hall senior signing

See HONEY BEAR, on Page 22

Class of 2022 SHARED AGREEMENTS

1. Ask beforehand if friends are willing to talk about college, and respect their decisions.
2. Don't refer to colleges as "good" or "bad;" there are no bad schools, but rather schools that would be bad fits for you personally
3. Read the room! Think before you speak.
4. Be unconditionally supportive! If you see someone committing, say congrats and don't press for more information
5. Do not post about every single acceptance on social media.
6. Don't share your opinions on other people's college choices.
7. Set boundaries with family/friends about college discussions
8. CELEBRATE what's important, like the actual process of applying and committing.

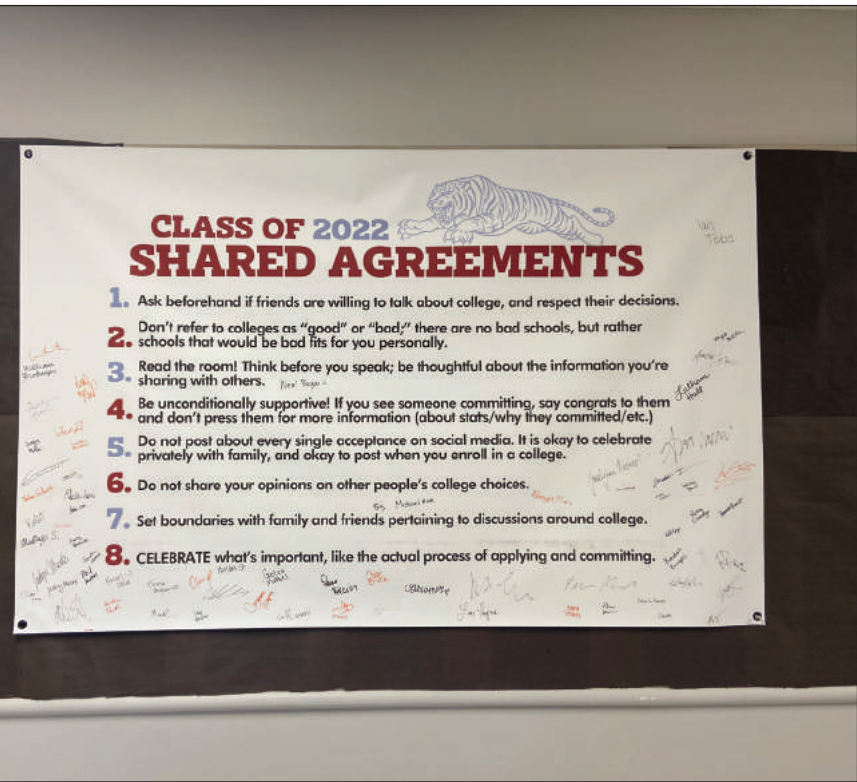
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Change Like No Other

IT HARPETH HALL AND USN



Ben and Asher snacking on their SATCO for lunch. PHOTO: Asher Maxwell



igned list of shared agreements pertaining to the college process at USN. To the s the printed list of agreements for legibility's sake PHOTO: Asher Maxwell

ASHER AND BEN VISIT USN

By Ben McSween
News Editor

On April 21st, Asher Maxwell and I participated in the final installment of the MBA-HH-USN editor exchange, visiting USN and spending the day shadowing two Peabody Press editors, William Grobmyer ('22) and Arnav Reddy ('22).

As I hid in USN visitor's lot waiting for Asher, I noticed an immediate difference between the two schools. Rather than the standard slacks, khakis, and collared shirts of the Hill, USN students could be seen walking into school wearing simple sweats and a hoodie. This is not to say that everyone at USN was dressed so casually, as one could argue that many students put as much, if not more, effort into their outfits for the day as MBA students. This blend between casual and planned outfits seems to be the result of a dress code policy that prioritizes comfort, allowing students to decide for themselves in what environment they learn best.

After being greeted at the door, we split off into pairs, as I followed Arnav and Asher followed William throughout the day. USN operates on a rotating, six day, block schedule that operates similarly to Harpeth Hall's schedule. Each day, a student typically has four core classes, each 65 minutes long. Additionally, interwoven within the schedule are slots for elective classes, allotting a student to have up to 6 classes a day. The school day begins at 8:25, with 15 minute breaks in between blocks to allow time for students to transition not only physically but also mentally to their next class.

A notable difference between *The Bell Ringer* and *The Peabody Press* is that *The Bell Ringer* is simply an extra-curricular, meeting and working entirely outside of class, whereas *The Peabody Press* is actually an elective class, occupying a full block period at least once a week. Writers for *The Peabody Press* receive a grade for the work they complete. Additionally, the block serves as a workshop where students can receive active feedback on their work and learn about the unique approach and skills required for journalistic pieces.

Another clear difference from MBA are the walls at USN. While MBA's walls are often adorned with professional-looking informatics or famous quotes, USN's walls are covered in a cluster posters and fliers from different clubs and student organizations. These announcements serve as a constant reminder of the vibrant student life at USN. On one such wall was a canvas describing the Class of 2022's Shared Agreements, listing a set of statements

enumerating what was appropriate and what was inappropriate in college discussions.

After a few morning classes, it was time for lunch, and although I can argue both sides of each school's various policies, USN undoubtedly has MBA beat when it comes to off-campus lunch. In what was described as a "core USN experience," Asher and I enjoyed a three-minute stroll to SATCO under a pleasant spring sun. After ordering our food to go, we simply walked back to campus and ate on the front steps of the school. Our uneventful, off-campus lunch experience sharply contrasts the pandemonium that is MBA off-campus lunch, often resulting in seniors whipping back into the parking lot at ungodly speeds, Five-Guys burger in hand. Just ask Max Hastings ('22) about his \$200 SATCO lunch.

After lunch, Arnav and I split as he went to TA a Spanish III class, a unique opportunity not afforded to MBA students. Instead, I followed William and Asher to William's English elective, titled *Ghost Stories*. The majority of the class was spent in small group discussions, divvying up character descriptions on a play the class had recently begun. This theme of collaboration was also largely emphasized within the other classes I had attended that day. Due to USN's midtown location, much of the school is consolidated within a square block, leading to smaller classrooms than would be found at MBA. As a result of this limited space, however, the classroom environment felt much more collaborative and less lecture style than MBA as everyone was compressed together.

After *Ghost Stories*, I reunited with Arnav and explored another unique facet of USN's curriculum. For the past three semesters, Arnav has pursued his own independent study of ceramics, and for his last period class, I attempted to create my own bowl. Despite my best efforts, I ultimately created something resembling more of a plate than a bowl. Nonetheless, I was excited to revamp my art career after a long absence since my elementary school art dominance.

Although I conceded to USN winning off-campus lunch, MBA students should count themselves lucky when it comes to parking. Rather than on-campus parking, USN students have to walk multiple blocks from campus to reach the parking garage. Luckily, the visitor's lot was right next to the entrance to the school, so I did not have to journey as far, but the next time a junior grumbles about their far walk from the Vine Street lot, just know it could always be worse.

Tennessee's Cruelty to the Homeless Knows No Bounds

By Ryan Estrin
Staff Writer

In mid-April, the Tennessee Senate made national news after Senator Frank Niceley invoked Hitler in a discussion of homelessness. While much attention and criticism has been focused on Niceley's comments, less attention has been paid to the actual legislation being discussed in the video. This lack of focus is part of a long-term issue of ignoring the hostile policy constructed around the homeless. The bill, HB 0978/SB 1610, makes camping around exit ramps and under bridges a misdemeanor. It also makes camping on public property a felony, carrying a punishment of up to six years in prison and a \$3,000 fine. HB 0978 is a disgusting step in the long history of dehumanizing and criminalizing unhoused people.

The roots of the modern homelessness crisis, like many current issues in the nation, stem from the rise of neoliberalism under the Reagan administration. In the 1980s, urban centers were rapidly deindustrializing as these jobs left the country. Many people had no opportunity to work, while others could only turn to low-wage jobs. At a time when more people than ever needed assistance from the government, bipartisan efforts slashed social spending. Public housing was efficiently defunded; welfare programs were limited; and mental institutions were closed. The remaining funding for homeless programs was shifted to bureaucratic programs that dehumanized homeless people. The result of these policy changes was a massive increase in the number of humans living on the street.

This shift in economic policy coincided with the rise of militarized police forces and mass incarceration. As more people were poured into the streets, cities faced an issue: managing the developing homeless crisis. They came to a simple and sadistic solution: attack and criminalize homeless existence. Police could simply arrest the unhoused and send them to prison, where they would be off the street and out of the public's mind. The war on drugs gave police an excuse to search and arrest many harmless, unhoused people. Over time, more specific legislation, such as the banning of panhandling, sleeping in public, loitering, and sharing food in public, has been passed to specifically target homeless populations. The new anti-homeless bill is another example of these laws.

Bills like HB 0978 are another part of the history of attacking the homeless, rather than addressing the underlying issues of homelessness.

Sending the homeless to prison does not reduce homelessness in the long term. It increases barriers to housing because now an unhoused person has a criminal record, often limiting shelter and public housing access. It also merely moves where the homeless live. Often these laws move people further from shelter, food, and work because the only place they are safe is in more remote areas like forests. In these places, the communities are harder to serve and more likely to lack the resources necessary to ensure the community's safety. Police have to spend their time clearing homeless encampments rather than focusing on addressing violent crime. At the same time, homeless people who are at much higher risks of crimes like assault are unable to turn to law enforcement because they have been forced outside the legal system. In addition, sending people through the legal system repeatedly is incredibly costly to taxpayers because the police forces, courts, and prisons all have to be funded for the additional arrests.

This process of criminalizing homelessness with these laws encourages the dehumanization of unhoused communities. As criminalization is justified, people become numb to watching militarized units force out homeless people from their camps, often with blatant brutality. Homeless people are also disproportionately likely to be both racial minorities and LGBTQ+. The criminalization of homelessness allows for further expansions of systematic oppression, as people accept the displacement of these at-risk minority groups.

Finding long-term and humane solutions to homelessness is an effective way to prevent the mass violence associated with criminalizing the homeless. The most obvious and



The Tennessee state senate, picture above, recently approved legislation that functionally criminalized homelessness. PHOTO: Wikimedia Commons

effective solution is lowering the cost of living. Nashville's housing market is already pricing many lower-income people out of their communities. As gentrification continues, many more will become homeless. The existence of vacation rentals exacerbates the issue by taking possible homes from locals and turning them into crash-pads for tourists. Limiting these developments would help to cool the rental market, for those who live in Nashville, by expanding the number of units available. Developing subsidized and public housing would also allow many more to move into homes.

These developments would lead to fewer people living on the streets and create more productivity. It would also remove the need to spend massive amounts of money funding anti-homeless law enforcement actions and the legal system's processing of the homeless. Creating effective mental health services would make treating many homeless people far easier and increase the likelihood that they

become productive.

Addressing the issue of homelessness requires recognizing why these laws are on the rise in state governments. The pressure for these bills comes largely from rich NIMBY (not in my backyard) homeowners and real estate lobbyists who refuse to see the homeless as humans. Instead, unhoused people are treated as piles of trash that lower property values and take up precious green space. Organizations like "Reclaim Brookmeade Park" have formed in Nashville to seize back their free public spaces from those they deem to be too unclean for their comfort. While they are correct that homeless camps are not ideal, they do not care about creating effective public housing opportunities or addressing income inequality. It's deeply revealing that these organizations actively advocate not giving the homeless necessary supplies to live because it encourages them to remain homeless around the rich communities. They also do not focus lobbying efforts on creating new public housing or stopping vacation rentals but just moving the homeless out of their area. It is clear from their rhetoric and actions that all these groups want the homeless out of sight, so they can safely assume that their property value will continue to rise.

Tennessee's new anti-homelessness bill must be opposed to prevent the dehumanization of unhoused people. Focusing on housing solutions and combating NIMBYism and lobbying groups are essential to long-term solutions for the decades-long homelessness crisis.



The housing crisis is worsening throughout the US, especially in Portland pictured above. PHOTO: Wikimedia Commons

Lee's Plan to Expand Hillsdale-Run Schools Is A Mistake

By **Raleigh Maxwell**
Staff Writer

On the last day of January, Governor Bill Lee called his plan to invest millions of dollars in a new charter school system an attempt to create “informed patriots,” but many see his plan as an attempt to rid Tennessee classrooms of both science and history deemed “un-American.” His reasoning represents a broader school of thought emerging across the U.S., known as “anti-woke curriculum.” Hillsdale College has played an integral role in this movement and will be extending its services to Tennessee, as a part of Governor Lee’s new funding plan. This funding will result in around fifty charter schools effectively controlled by Hillsdale College, which will triple the number of charter schools Hillsdale currently administers.

Most of the criticism of Hillsdale revolves around the curriculum they recommend for their charter schools, known as the 1776 Curriculum. This curriculum emphasizes a classical education by promoting studies of ancient Rome and Greece and the civic values that emerged from those democratic states. The effect of the 1776 Curriculum, however, is not the promoting of these values; it is the concealment of critical portions of our nation’s history and the denial of unanimous scientific consensus around our changing climate.

The major issue in their teaching of history concerns social justice, which a few lines from the text of the 1776 Curriculum clearly reveal: “The civil rights movement was almost immediately turned into programs that ran counter to the lofty ideals of the Founders.” The notion that the civil rights movement was anti-American should not be taught in Tennessee schools.

The civil rights movement brought arguably the most American changes to our society by its protecting the rights of all Americans and promoting the centrality of freedom to the American identity. Another line states, “King appealed to the individual conscience and not the force of law to bring about a color-blind society.” Anyone who has studied King’s work in the civil rights movement knows that he clearly appealed to federal legislation. It seems, however, that the writers of this curriculum must have been in classes as children that also denied basic historical facts. King’s own words from a 1967 speech directly refute this claim: “although it is true that morality can’t be legislated, behavior can be regulated.” These two lines from the curriculum are merely the tip of the iceberg.

Another area of the 1776 Curriculum that should not be taught in Tennessee schools is its denial of climate change. This trend of climate denialism is not exclusive to Hillsdale, as many private schools around the

country also refuse to teach it. A National Center for Science Education report revealed the only instance in the 1776 Curriculum that discusses either climate change or global warming is a lesson on the “global warming theory” for 6th grade classes, which frames it as a hypothetical rather than a real issue.

Climate change is both real and present in our daily lives. A recent Associated Press study reveals that Tennessee has warmed 1.6 degrees since 1987. Another study completed by the States at Risk group indicated that, by 2050, our state will have fifty-five days a year of extreme heat (above 105 degrees). We currently average around ten. At a time when the kids in school will be the ones in power responding to climate change, denying the mere existence of it in classrooms will severely constrain our ability to respond efficiently and effectively.

Some might argue that these schools empirically have better test scores than traditional public schools, but a study by Charisse Gulosino, a professor at the University of Memphis, showed that the Atlanta school partnered with Hillsdale had lower scores, not higher. Higher test scores in other Hillsdale-sponsored schools can be attributed to these schools’ tendencies to expel students right before testing days to raise their average scores.

Governor Lee’s plans should serve

as a reminder to the MBA community of the values of our balanced education and the importance of being open to unfamiliar schools of thought. The Hillsdale model rejects this and adheres to a narrow vision of the world, based on the opinions of the administration of Hillsdale College. MBA’s curriculum promotes the teaching of facts rather than subjecting students to the administration’s opinions. This style provides for a balanced education rather than one centered around “patriotism.” It fosters a pluralistic environment rather than a dogmatic one. Promoting this effective learning environment requires rejecting the plans to bring Hillsdale’s curriculum into Tennessee.



Gov. Bill Lee
PHOTO: Wikimedia Commons

What Overturning *Roe v. Wade* Will Mean for Tennessee

By **Asher Maxwell**
Editor-in-Chief

Nearly two weeks ago, on Monday night, May 2, *Politico* reported that the Supreme Court intended to overturn *Roe vs. Wade* in a bold and consequential decision. The long-standing precedent set in *Roe* has limited the ability of states or the federal government to restrict abortion access. Without the threat of court intervention, many states, including Tennessee, are poised to drastically curtail abortion access.

As of now, nothing has changed. *Politico* only reported that the Court intended to overturn *Roe*. The actual decision will not come until this summer. Hypothetically, the court could still change its mind and uphold *Roe*. However, further sources have confirmed, a coalition of the five most conservative Supreme Court justices is rock-solid in its intention

to strike down a woman’s right to an abortion. Three of these justices were recently appointed during the Trump administration, when conservatives gained their 6-3 majority.

As soon as *Roe v. Wade* is overturned, Tennessee’s trigger law will take effect and make it a felony to perform an abortion. The law was passed in 2019 by the Tennessee legislature with the intention to ban abortion in the state as soon as *Roe v. Wade* was overturned. Doctors will not be allowed to perform an abortion in the state at any point in the pregnancy, unless the woman can prove that continuing the pregnancy would put her life in danger. Notably, the ban would provide no exceptions for rape or incest and no leeway based on the age of the patient. The law will not make it illegal for a patient to receive an abortion, but any doctor caught performing the procedure would be subject to prison time and a \$10,000

fine.

Currently, abortion is legal in the state, but it is subject to several restrictions, including a 48-hour waiting period and a fetal heartbeat cutoff, both of which make accessing an abortion and operating an abortion clinic incredibly difficult. Despite the legal hurdles required to perform an abortion, there are currently nine operational clinics in the state. These clinics are concentrated in Tennessee’s urban areas, which make it difficult for rural women in particular to access abortions.

Recently, the Tennessee state legislature decided to add to its abortion restrictions by banning receiving abortion pills through the mail. These pills can be taken by women early in the pregnancy to terminate the embryo post-conception. This law would allow women to access abortion pills if they go to their doctor. Despite some media reports,

Tennessee has not banned emergency contraceptives, like Plan B.

The Court leak has prompted both fervent support and backlash in Tennessee. Many state politicians have praised the Court’s decision, while bemoaning the leak as a threat to the institution. In contrast, Nashville has seen a lot of backlash to the news, including pro-choice protests outside the downtown courthouse. Our district attorney, Glenn Funk, announced that he will refuse to prosecute any statewide abortion ban, which could result in the state Attorney General selecting a special prosecutor for abortion crimes.

This summer, we will learn of the Court’s final decision, which could have existential consequences for the status of abortion in Tennessee.


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Titans Make a Huge Statement on Draft Night

By Billy Jones
Sports Editor

This year's NFL draft class was unique. There was no clear number one overall pick. Many analysts had Aidan Hutchinson as the clear number one at first, but as the scouts dove deeper, that pick became more and more unclear.

As the clock started ticking in Duval County, the Jaguars went with Travon Walker, the stud from Georgia, and the Lions scooped up the Michigan phenom. After two corners went off the board at three and four, the third edge-rushing prospect (Kayvon Thibodeaux) was taken by the New York Giants at five. This draft was only the second time in NFL history where the first five picks were all defensive players.

The trade calls began coming in after the next five picks went relatively fast—the most notable of which being the AJ Brown trade. The Titans traded away a top ten receiver for the 18th pick, a 2022 second-rounder, and a 2022 fourth-rounder.

With that 18th pick, the Titans selected Treyton Burks, a standout wide receiver from Arkansas. The front office justified the move as a cap space issue and highlighted the tremendous upside of Burks.

The other two notable surprises

from the night came at the 20th pick a couple of picks later. With the 29th overall pick, the New England Patriots selected Cole Strange, a guard from UT-Chattanooga. Strange is the first player from UTC to be drafted in the first round and the highest overall pick from the local school since the Hall-of-Famer, Terrell Owens.

Going back a few picks, the Pittsburgh Steelers took the only quarterback of the first round in Kenny Pickett.

The second day saw only three quarterbacks taken off the board. Desmond Ridder became the second QB, as the Falcons took him to give Mariota a run for his money. The hometown Titans traded up a few picks later to select Malik Willis, the projected first-rounder. Lastly, the Panthers took Matt Corral from Ole Miss.

The Titans had an excellent second day of drafting. Roger McCreary, the slightly-undersized corner with great footwork, was their second draft pick.

Later, they finally addressed the need at O-line with their selection of Nicholas Petit-Frere from Ohio State. The Malik Willis pick ended their Day 2 of the draft.

In the 5th round of the 2022 NFL Draft, MBA alumnus Ty Chandler was selected with the 169th pick by the Minnesota Vikings.



Titans Quarterback Ryan Tannehill

Chandler will look to impress his coaches in training camp as he joins a roster with four other young running backs, one of which being Dalvin Cook.

The third day also saw the drafting of five more QBs (most notably Bailey Zappe and Sam Howell). The first three picks of Day Three for the Titans saw the addition of some offensive weapons in Hassaan Haskins (RB), Chigoziem Okonkwo (TE), and Kyle Philips (WR).

PHOTO: Wikimedia Commons

The Titans ended their draft with two SEC defensive players in Theo Jackson, a safety from Tennessee, and Chance Campbell, a linebacker from Ole Miss.

The variation of the Titans draft class was certainly its strength. Jon Robinson certainly took some gambles with the trading of AJ Brown and with the selection of Malik Willis at quarterback, time will decide if the moves pay off.

Nashville Opens GEODIS Park With a Draw to Remember

By Stephen Hagerty
Staff Writer

After calling Nissan Stadium their home for the last two seasons, Nashville SC is opening GEODIS Park for its first game this Sunday.

The opening of this new 30,000-seat stadium represents the evolution of Nashville SC, marking the last of the team's growing pains. Nashville SC was born on Dec. 20, 2017, but the soccer team's inaugural season did not occur until 2020. Their first match was in Nissan Stadium against Atlanta United FC on February 29, 2020.

The game was played before 59,069 people – far more than any other soccer event in the history of Tennessee – a testament to Nashville's enthusiasm for soccer and just how popular the MLS team can become.

Although the season was canceled a month later because of the COVID-19 pandemic, the team did not quit. Under the helm of head coach Gary Smith, Nashville SC was able to rebound in August, winning their first victory against FC Dallas.

The team finished the 2020 regular

season 8–8–7 with 32 points, making the MLS playoffs. They made it to the conference semifinals, ending with one of the best first seasons in MLS history.

The late opening of GEODIS Park forced Nashville SC to take its first 9 games on away from home in the MLS Season.

They handled business with some bumps in the road, but for a team that failed to lose a home game last season, the plethora of home games set to come down the season should help them recover some dropped points.

The centerpiece of this comeback could come from the fantastic new GEODIS Park. After constructing this stadium, Nashville is now home to the largest soccer-specific stadium in the United States or Canada.

Its modern amenities but traditional designs make it a true best of both worlds. Modeled after the English stadiums but built with some of the new, modern technology gives an incomparable gameday experience.

The work and care that went into the construction of this stadium were



The new GEODIS Park opened with a packed game. PHOTO: Mr. Bassett

evident to all fortunate enough to attend the inaugural game on May 1 against the team that bounced them from the playoffs the year before, the Philadelphia Union.

With deafening noise and in front of a sold-out crowd, the players took the pitch for the first time in their new home. Chant after chant was sung by the Backline (Nashville SC's supporter group) in their new standing-room-only section on the stadium's South End.

Now, only feet from the field, the

crowd certainly had a role in the team's fighting until the end. Down a goal with just under ten minutes to play, the Boys in Gold won a penalty which Randall Leal converted with authority to score the first goal for Nashville SC at GEODIS Park and send the crowd into nirvana.

That goal would be the night's final as the game would finish 1-1. While not the dream opener some desired, the first match indeed demonstrated that GEODIS Park would be all that was promised and perhaps more.

A Tennessee-Vandy Baseball Rivalry

By Claiborne Tompkins
Staff Writer

For years, Vanderbilt University has been a significant baseball presence. With College World Series (the final eight teams in college baseball) in five of the last ten years to go along with National championships in 2014 and 2019, the Vandy Boys are often the team to beat both in local matchups and on the national stage. Led by head coach, Tim Corbin, the Commodores have regularly found themselves among the top baseball programs in the nation.

The same cannot be said for their rivals to the East. Baseball has long been forgotten on Rocky Top. Recently, however, things have changed. Led by new head coach Tony Vitello, the Volunteers made their first CWS appearance in years.

In a battle of rivals, one the newcomer on the block and the other, the old veterans; the stage was set for an exciting three-game series. The University of Tennessee made the short trip down to Nashville for the often one-sided rivalry. The Commodores had beaten the University of Tennessee in the past three series, and Vanderbilt looked to continue their historical success.

This time, however, would be different. Under Coach Vitello,

Tennessee had quietly been building a dangerous program. Vitello has put together several extraordinarily successful and robust recruiting classes since his hiring in 2018.

He has also developed players such as Ben Joyce, the fastest pitcher in the NCAA. Tennessee baseball's development was evident in 2019 after claiming its first NCAA tournament appearance in 14 years. This season, the Volunteers play differently than other schools around the country. They are known for their attitude, passion, and love of the game.

Supported by their rowdy fans in the often packed Lindsey Nelson Stadium, their fire has led to some colorful and entertaining moments on and off the field.

Nothing exhibits Tennessee's attitude more than Freshman outfielder Jared Dickey's comments after a loss to Alabama. Jared claimed that the Vols were "going to come out and punch them in the throat" in the next game. It turns out he wasn't wrong. The Vols smashed Alabama which would set the stage for a monumental series between Tennessee and Vanderbilt with both teams ranked inside the top 10.

On April 1st, Tennessee and Vanderbilt played the first game of their series. The Volunteers jumped out to a 2-0 lead and never looked



Tennessee Pitcher Garrett Crochet 2019 PHOTO: Wikimedia Commons

back, ultimately winning 6-2.

The game did not go without its share of controversy. In the middle of the game, the umpire stopped Jordan Beck for a bat check after hitting a home run.

For each game, bats must get approval represented by a sticker on the bat. This bat had a sticker, but it was from a game earlier that week against Western Carolina. The bat was ruled ineligible and the home run void. While it did not affect the game's end result, fans, players, and coaches on both sides were livid with the situation.

The second game went along the same route. The Vols jumped out to an

early lead again and won 5-2. Despite a late rally by the Commodores, Tennessee would hold off the charge and clinch the series, giving themselves a chance for a sweep on the final day.

The final game got off to a slow start as pitchers, Drew Beam and Patrick Reily went back and forth, each answering one another with a strikeout after strikeout. No one had scored through six innings.

That would all change with two runs in the seventh inning from the heart of Tennessee's powerful batting lineup. The Vols would tack on three more runs in the final two innings to clinch a 5-0 win and a series sweep.

Ty Chandler (17') to the Minnesota Vikings

By Andy Nunn
Staff Writer

"2021 will be a special season in Chapel Hill, and I can't wait to get there to get to work," Ty Chandler said when announcing his grad transfer from Tennessee to UNC.

At the end of the 2020 season, Ty Chandler found himself in a predicament. It seemed as if his time at Tennessee was coming to an end, and it was maybe time to move on.

Lacking recognition and having to split reps with Eric Gray, he decided to transfer to UNC. He led the team in rushing in more than half of their games, and he even ran for a season-high of 213 yards against Wake Forest. At the end of the season despite a loss in the Mayo Bowl to South Carolina, Chandler was named to the All-ACC Second Team for this season. Chandler, with his great elusiveness and ability to both run and catch well, found himself in a great spot after the 2021 season.

After being chosen to play in the North/South postseason Shrine Bowl, Chandler began to prepare for the

combine, for which he also held an invitation.

Many draft scouts have predicted Chandler to be drafted as high as the fourth round. He posted a forty-yard dash time of 4.38s, which put him ahead of stars like Kenneth Walker and Chris Olave. Considering this and his brute strength, pundits label Chandler an excellent fit for many teams needing a consistent backup running back.

In my opinion, he has a build similar to that of Austin Ekeler or Javonte Williams (former UNC RB) because of their ability to catch and run on every single down. His elusiveness and sure hands improve his draft stock tenfold in a year when there are many above-average running backs.

It would be great to see the Titans pick Chandler in the draft as they need supporting roles to Derrick Henry, not to mention how big that would be to have a hometown guy play for the Titans.

The sky's the limit for Chandler, considering his current draft stock. We have seen so many days two



Post Draft hype surrounding Ty Chandler PHOTO: Vikings Twitter

draft picks become starting running backs in the past couple of years that if Chandler keeps working like he is, opportunities will surely come in.

It's all there: a 1000+ yard rushing season last year, the speed, the grit, the determination, the humility, the explosiveness, and the ability to make

an impact. Chandler has it all.

While it took a wait, Chandler was eventually taken in the fifth round at pick 159 by the Minnesota Vikings. Chandler had to wait through the first two nights, but midway through the third and final day, his name was called at last.

Lacrosse Coach Matt Garvey Stepping Down

By John Howard
Staff Writer

Mr. Garvey is a 7th-grade history teacher and head varsity lacrosse coach at MBA. Next year, he is retiring to pursue a career in commercial real estate. Before MBA, Mr. Garvey taught in the Camel School District for four years in Indianapolis, Indiana. In his eight years at MBA, he has accomplished many things. Mr. Garvey has also done academic counseling and worked in admissions.

As a teacher, Mr. Garvey has had the opportunity to share his love of history with a large swath of MBA students. His history class has been unique and fun; I can confirm that he did indeed make learning our nation's history a delight. He got to know every student in his classes and ensured they had a good experience. Mr. Garvey was always available for help sessions and encouraged his students to go. Furthermore, he made his help session fun by joking with his

students while they were there.

On top of that, Mr. Garvey was a fun advisor and an impactful one. Students from other advisories would constantly come to visit the Garvey advisory because they knew how enjoyable of an advisory it was. Additionally, even old advisees came back to the Garvey advisory to check how things were going.

Under Mr. Garvey's leadership, the lacrosse team has changed for the better. They have managed to have an astounding two state championships since Mr. Garvey took over. With the new facilities, the lacrosse team should continue to have success under Mr. McWhirter.

Additionally, many boys have been sent to fantastic colleges on lacrosse scholarships since Mr. Garvey has been a part of the lacrosse team. The new facilities have also allowed the lacrosse team to improve and get better than before.

His accomplishments as coach should not be understated. He won two straight championships in 2019,

2021 (2020 was cancelled due to COVID), and with yet another strong team, he looks destined to compete for yet another Tennessee State Championship.

Helping the team come together around his trusted assistant coach and friend, Chris Smith, as he battles cancer has been nothing short of a heroic feat. Led by coach Garvey and anchored by a strong group of senior leaders forged by his direction, the MBA Lacrosse team will give it everything they have over the next three weeks as they look to send Coach Garvey out on top with a third consecutive state championship.

We know that we will all miss Mr. Garvey, but we hope he has a good time with his new job in commercial real estate and makes many new memories there. He has forever impacted and changed eight years of students here at MBA, and we can not ask for a better history teacher than Mr. Garvey. He has given us so many memories that we can cherish forever, and the time spent here with Mr.



Coach Matt Garvey PHOTO: MBA
Garvey will always be remembered. Thank you for everything you have done for this school, Mr. Garvey.

(The Less Important) Coach K Bids Adieu

By Claiborne Tompkins
Staff Writer

In Chicago, Illinois, Michael William Krzyzewski was born on February 13, 1947. During Coach K's childhood, he was surrounded by the basketball world. He attended the U.S. Military Academy, playing under legendary coach Bob Knight, leading the team to a National Invitation Tournament fourth-place finish. Krzyzewski served for five years as an officer in the U.S. military.

After Krzyzewski left the Army, he joined former coach Bobby Knight on the Indiana Hoosiers coaching staff and was a part of a historic 29-0 regular-season run in 1976. He later returned to West Point as a coach, where he stayed for five years and saw a good amount of success.

On March 18, 1980, basketball changed forever. Krzyzewski was hired as the head coach for the Duke University Blue Devils. Over the next four decades, Coach K saw tremendous success and remained a strong team leader.

His list of accomplishments could fill pages and pages, but some of these included five national championships, 13 Final Four Appearances, and 15 ACC Tournament Championships. He won over 1,200 games during his

NCAA coaching career and seemed a permanent fixture in March Madness. Krzyzewski also coached the US Men's National team multiple times, where he led the team to golds in 2008, 2012, and 2016.

Coach K's final season was full of historical moments. Cameroon Indoor stadium was packed to the brim with fans, and even when Duke traveled to opposing schools, their fans filled the house to catch one last glimpse of Coach K. Duke made it to the Final Four in Krzyzewski's last dance, which allowed him to pass John Wooden for the most appearances of all time.

Krzyzewski has handpicked Jon Schneyder to replace him as the next coach at Duke, but the question remains if he will be able to attain the same level of success. Rivals, fans, and players will miss Coach K, and without him, basketball will seem entirely different in the upcoming seasons.

As Duke superfan and future student Jack Roberts '22 put it, "I know my opinion is that of bias and not very popular, but I think coach k is one of the best college basketball coaches of all-time behind only coach Wooden. He respected the game and coached it right." The future Blue Devil added, "He found



Coach K signing autographs.

ways to innovate with all different team dynamics. His being able to build up a squad over multiple years and coach them up to victory. Even taking classes full of one and done's and challenging the test of time while making a lasting impact on his players in just one season is a challenge that not many coaches face and that even fewer can pull off. I hope we will remember him as one of the greatest as the Duke basketball coach, team

PHOTO: Wikimedia Commons
USA head coach, and mentor."

Roberts echoes the sentiments of many around the country, not just in Duke circles. While his downfalls were celebrated almost as much as his successes by some envious fans, it is no doubt that college basketball will not be the same without Coach K sitting on the Duke bench.

Another Golden Run? Preds to the Playoffs

By **Cameron Kinser**
Staff Writer

The Nashville Predators' season has been inconsistent, to say the least. They have had hot streaks in which they beat teams that seemed untouchable but also experienced some embarrassing losses to teams that have had seasons to forget.

This trend can be seen in the last two weeks. The Preds faced the Colorado Avalanche in a thrilling 5-4 shootout win but recently lost to the Arizona Coyotes, the second worst team in the league, to place the Preds in the second wild-card spot in the West. For those who don't follow hockey, this essentially means that Nashville is the worst team to make the playoffs.

It's crazy to think, but at the All-Star break marking the midpoint of the season, the Preds were the second best team in the Central Division, beating teams like the Minnesota Wild and St. Louis Blues who now have higher seedings than Nashville has for the playoffs.

What happened? The Preds have faced some injury problems, most notably Filip Forsberg, who missed more than ten games this season but still managed to be top ten in the entire league for goals scored. Nashville also had a notably more difficult schedule for the second half of the season.

But this still doesn't account for transitioning from a race for the second seed to a race for a playoff spot.

My assessment: lack of execution. The Preds have looked much better this year than their record represents, as evident by more than 75% of their losses being just a one- or two-goal

game. And they have lacked the ability to finish games.

Just this past week tells you all you need to know. Going into the final five games of the season, all Nashville needed was five points.

The Preds could have lost every game in an overtime or shootout, which yields one point in the standings to the losing team, and taken the number one wild-card spot. Instead, the Predators decided to go 1-2-2 in their last stretch (one win, two regulation losses, and two overtime losses).

Two games I want to draw your attention to are the overtime loss to the Calgary Flames and the regulation loss to the Arizona Coyotes.

The Preds were sailing against Calgary. After letting in an early first period goal, they fought back against a cup contender to hold a 4-3 lead in the final minutes of regulation. Then, disaster hit: Vezina-contending (an award for most outstanding goaltender in the regular season) goaltender Juuse Saros left the game with an apparent lower body injury.

David Rittich, who has had a difficult season for the Preds as the backup goalie, entered the game cold. It's hard to blame him for the loss due to the fact that he had been sitting on the bench for the entirety of the game and had to enter it with no warm up, but it is tempting.

As Calgary pulled their goalie to get an extra man on the ice, all the Preds had to do was survive. The players were throwing their bodies out left and right to block shots and doing a fantastic job keeping the puck to the outside.

Then, the puck went down below the goal line with just under five seconds left; Matthew Tkachuk

picked it up and got a wrap-around goal, sneaking the puck in between Rittich's pad and the post. The play went to review, and it was determined that the puck crossed the goal line with a tenth of a second left in regulation to send the game to overtime.

To no surprise, Rittich let in a weak shot that seemed to go straight through his chest to lose the game.

Fast forward to the last game of the season against the Arizona Coyotes. All the Preds need is one point to clinch the top wild-card spot in the Western Conference and secure their first round series with the Calgary Flames. Apparently a four goal lead wasn't enough to do that. After setting a franchise record by scoring three goals in the first three minutes of the game and tacking a fourth on at the end of the first period, the Preds would go scoreless for the rest of the game as Connor Ingram, a goalie called up from the Milwaukee Admirals, the Pred's minor league team, allowed five goals in two periods for a regulation loss.

Due to the catastrophe represented by the last five games of the season, the Predators faced cup-favorite, number one seeded in the Western Conference Colorado Avalanche in the first round beginning Tuesday, May 3.

There were two ways of thinking about this situation: optimistically or realistically. I will do my best to give both interpretations but I think it's clear which side I favor.

Let's start positively. The Predators had actually come out on top in the season series against the Avalanche, winning three games and losing the fourth in regulation. Albeit only one of the three wins was in regulation, but it still shows that the Preds have

the capability to hang in there with a really strong team. Nashville has also unexpectedly had a handful of standout players.

Juuse Saros has played in more games than any other starting goaltender in the NHL this year, even with missing out on the last two games of the season for his injury. But there is one stat that shows how invaluable he has been to the Preds this year: Goalie Point Shares (GPS), which is an advanced statistic that gives an estimation of the number of points in a team's standing contributed by a goaltender due to his play in net.

Saros leads the league with a rating of 13.9. Without Saros, the Preds would have been an estimated fourteen points lower in the standings, throwing any hope of a playoff spot out of sight.

Nashville has had three other impressive performances this season: Roman Josi, Matt Duchene, and Filip Forsberg.

Josi, a favorite for the Norris trophy for best defenceman in the NHL, led the league in points (combination of goals and assists) for a defenceman, outdoing second place by ten points. Matt Duchene has broken the Pred's franchise record for goals scored in a single season with forty-three, and Filip Forsberg would have probably made it past the fifty-goal mark if not for an injury that put him out for thirteen games.

Overall, the Preds have had a very respectable season considering most fans were calling for a rebuild last summer. And if the past were to repeat itself, the last and only time the Predators made a cup run was in 2017

See **GOLDEN RUN, Page 22**

MLB Fouls one Off Their Own Foot...Again

By **Aiden Becker**
Contributor

It happened again, guys. For the ninth time in Major League Baseball history, there has been a league lockout that has resulted in the delay of multiple games. Why did this happen? To put it simply: mostly money.

It began before the 2017 season when the MLB and MLB Player Association signed a CBA set to expire at midnight of the 2022 new year. At 12:01 a.m. On January 1, 2022, the MLB entered into the first lockout since the 1994-1995 seasons.

Why MLB issued a lockout so quickly is not clear; instead, many changes had to be made. These issues included updating rules such

as the infield shift, drug and alcohol regulations, player salaries, and the overall economics involving the league.

During this lockout, teams and players were not allowed to meet, training facilities were closed, and transactions were banned. Teams were essentially told by the higher-ups in the league to shut up and wait.

Over the past few years, there have been arguments made by players demanding the payment of second and third-tier players while in free agency. Younger players demand better payment because they are in their prime when under the age of 30. Players were also upset when the MLB introduced requiring more service time in the minors, and the argument against it was that during

rebuilding and cycling, it will limit salaries for players.

Throughout the months leading up to opening day, the MLB and MLBPA met to negotiate the players' wants and the league's. For a long time, there seemed to be no progress made. Baseball was at a standstill; fans were becoming anxious; players were speaking their minds; and pre-season games were being canceled.

Efforts and demands were made, neither side seemed to want to give in or find a middle ground, but once these negotiations started leaking into spring training, one thing was certain: they needed to hurry up and make some decisions.

Despite the general consensus to hurry up, meetings were still aggressive. For weeks the only

agreements made were to push back games, but finally, they found a middle ground.

It was great! The fans no longer had to worry about when they would get to see America's favorite pastime. Opening Day was April 7, and it was ecstatic. The weeks leading up to the big day were almost as fun. Teams were using their little time and made some big moves to stack their rosters with more talent. Except for Oakland Arena (home of the A's), fans were packing every stadium to see their favorite teams battle it out.

What were the changes made with this new CBA? The MLB added two more playoff spots for starters, raising it to 12 teams total. Younger players

See **MLB, Page 22**

College Admissions: Are They Fair?

By Maithreya Gowda
Analytics Editor

Undeniably, the college admissions process is one of the most significant times in a high schooler's career. A student works to write dozens of essays, attend meetings, schedule interviews, and create a personal identity to demonstrate to colleges all while balancing the rigor of a typical school year including sports and extracurriculars. After all of this work, many students get into a school they may be satisfied with, and continue into the next chapter of their lives.

In recent times, however, worries have arisen that the college process is not achieving its desired result of rewarding hard-working students with adequate higher education. It begs the question: Is the undergraduate admissions process fair? The short answer is somewhat. But, as one MBA student indicated in the most recent Bell Ringer survey, the answers to all questions regarding this topic are much more nuanced than a simple yes or no.

A common issue many take with the process as a whole is the consideration of a student's background as a factor for admission. Often, admissions officers take into account a student's ethnicity, socioeconomic status, parents, etc. when deciding whether or not they are a proper fit for the school. While some argue that colleges should solely evaluate an applicant based on merit and not any of these details, others push for the inclusion of students from all backgrounds, claiming that a total meritocracy would fail as students begin their education on uneven footing.

As far as the consideration of race goes, 72.3% of MBA students said that no, colleges should not consider it. Affirmative action in college admissions, or extra consideration for underrepresented minority students, is a topic that continues to be debated today. A few states have banned such policies. For example, affirmative action is completely legal in Tennessee, whereas in California and eight other states there are statewide bans in effect. The proponents of the policy affirm that affirmative action is necessary to increase the representation of people of color among student bodies. On the flip side, opponents argue that such policies make it disproportionately difficult for Asian Americans to gain admission to competitive schools as they are held to a higher standard of grades and standardized test scores.

Setting aside ethnic divides,

socioeconomic status is an example of a problem with college admissions that was exacerbated by the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. MBA respondents included 29.2% who thought that higher socioeconomic status was a large and unfair advantage for students, and 48.7% of students who thought that it was a slight advantage. A majority of people acknowledge that money plays a role in the process, whether that includes access to resources, better education, or more connections.

Of course, to take it a step further, there have been instances in which college admissions seemed like a business to the public eye. The Varsity Blues scandal in 2019 was a perfect example of using money to admit kids into top-tier schools. Multiple faculty members of USC were indicted, and in general, the case created a pessimistic view of certain schools as places for the rich.

Another way in which some believe that poorer kids are discriminated against is through the College Board itself. While the College Board is officially classified as a 501(c)3 non-profit organization, one study showed that in 2019 alone the College Board generated \$1.1 billion in revenue, which, to put into perspective was nearly the same amount of revenue that St. Jude's Children's Hospital generated in the same year. The key difference, however, is that the College Board has little to no guarantee on how their money is spent. In one year, a reported 10% was spent on fee waivers for students, but no other spending was discovered, leaving 90% of their revenue unaccounted for.

But the generation of this revenue is primarily what has a direct impact on students and parents. The College Board's costs for testing have caused dissent among thousands of poor families. To give context, if a student wanted to take four AP exams, one SAT, and one ACT, it would cost just under \$600. As one survey respondent stated, "not everyone can even break even, let alone pay for AP tests and the like. In costing so much per attempt at a standardized test, poorer students are further disadvantaged, already frequently lacking access to the higher end training tools available to more affluent students."

The most recent shift in

college admissions, however, has been the nationwide decrease in acceptance rates due to cascading effects of the pandemic. For one, many standardized test centers were closed or had to postpone testing dates, so colleges nationwide saw it fit to implement test-optional policies to help families navigate the difficulties. Additionally, many schools saw massive grade inflation as a result of online school or less structure. As a result, both grades and standardized test scores became slightly less valuable in an application. Today, a student's extracurriculars, service hours, essays, or other components bear more weight than before.

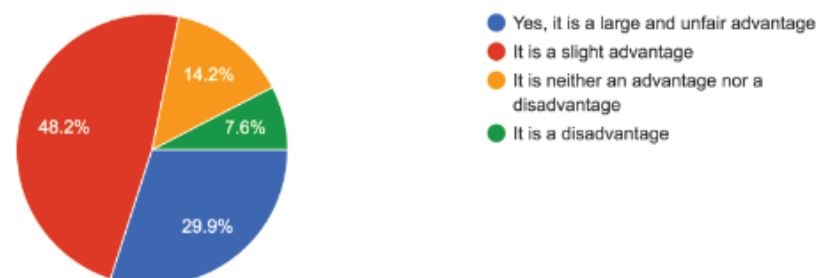
Concerning test-optional policies, the survey responses were divided. While 48.7% believe that colleges should revert to the previous system of required scores, 46.2% and 5.1% support test-optional and test blind policies, respectively. It's safe to conclude that colleges will differ in which type of policy they implement, and will likely continue to change over time, as this decision is highly

contested.

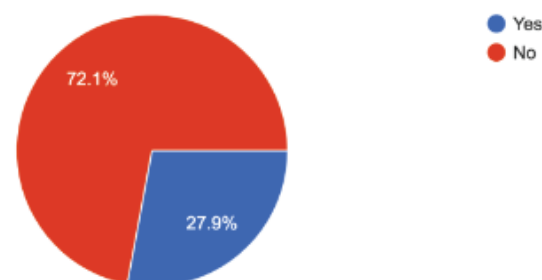
Lastly, the survey asked MBA students about which factors they believed colleges should consider the most. For major factors, the three clear leaders were grades, extracurriculars, and essays. Then, the respondents considered standardized test scores, service, and awards/leadership to be the next most important parts, or the minor factors. A similar poll from Pew Research Center concluded similar results. The major difference is that MBA students considered standardized testing lower than the national poll, and essays substantially higher.

So while college admissions at a first glance might seem simple, there exists a great amount of nuance behind the scenes, as well as a lot of factors to consider when deeming the process fair or unfair. As the process continues to change, it will become increasingly important to keep checking on what students think and create a process that is best for all.

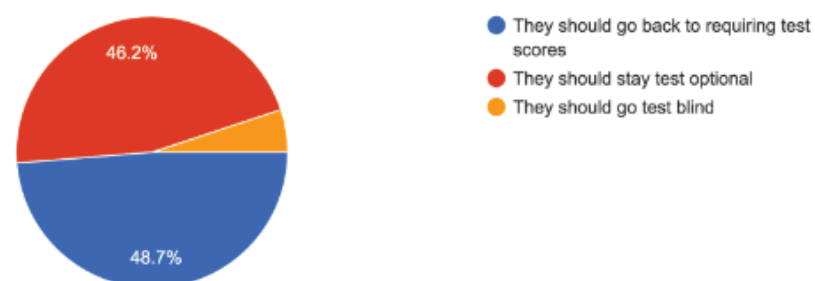
Is socioeconomic status an unfair advantage throughout the process?
197 responses



Should colleges consider a student's race and/or ethnicity in an application?
197 responses



Should colleges remain test optional in coming years?
197 responses



GOLDEN RUN, from Page 20
when they were in the same spot they were this year: the eight seed in the western conference.

But the matter of fact is that since 2017 the Preds have had four straight playoff appearances and haven't made it past the second round. If the Preds couldn't win in 2018 when they had the best team in the regular season for the entire league or in 2019 when they were still number one of the central division, what makes anyone think that Nashville can win when they aren't even favored?

The Avalanche have had a remarkable season. They are fast, young, and talented. I would list all of their standout out players but unlike Nashville who only has four Colorado has more than ten. Darryl Sutter, head coach of number-two-seed Calgary Flames, commented, "If you are a wild card team I sure as hell don't want to play Colorado in the first round, because it's going to be a waste of eight days." I hate to say it, but he's right. As of the end of the season, Nahville did not look like they could

compete with any playoff caliber team, especially not the Avalanche.

No team in the NHL can rival them in skill, but maybe if you rough them up enough they'll start to show signs of weakness like they did in their games against us this season. If the Preds were able to overcome the odds, I would have had them winning in seven games in a long, hard fought battle where the Avalanche just ran out of steam.

On the other hand, the prediction I made in my bracket was an Avalanche sweep. They were obviously the better team based on statistics, standings, and talent. And if you go up and down their line up it would be very difficult to spot anything that's missing.

Especially without goaltender Saros, the Preds didn't stand a chance. To show how embarrassing their playoff performance was, I would like to point out that this article was originally intended to be a playoff prediction for the Preds. But thanks to the Avalanche's four-game sweep, this is now an article reflecting on the year and giving insight into what we

could be seeing this summer in terms of signings and player moves.

If you missed the Pred's short-lived playoff stint I'll give you a quick recap. For one, Nathan Mackinnon and Cale Makar (two of the top ten players in the league) gave a dominating performance embarrassing the Pred's defense and goaltending.

Secondly, the Preds' goaltending tandem without Juuse Saros has to be the worst in the league. Both Rittich and Ingram gave demoralizing performances to the point where it might have been a better strategy to just not put in a goalie and have six skaters on the ice. At least then the Preds would be able to generate some kind of an offensive attack.

And that brings me to my third and final point: Nashville simply could not score. I would love to credit this fact to a stellar goaltending performance for the Avalanche, but that was not the case. The Preds' "star players" could not score because they spent all of their time defending a relentless Avalanche in their own zone, and our other lines were so focused on hitting

people that they couldn't have scored with an empty net.

So what's the solution? You have a team that can consistently make the playoffs but can't get out of the first round because they are always seeded against a much superior team. My thought: a rebuild.

And a rebuild must start from the top in the form of general manager David Poile. This summer the Preds need to get some courage and cut their ties with him. Poile has been the general manager since the Pred's inaugural season in 1998 and still has no cup to show for his time here. He has had some successful trades such as the one acquiring Forsberg, but they are overshadowed by the ones giving away Samuel Girard, Ryan Ellis, Viktor Arvidsson, Seth Jones, and Kevin Fiala just to name a few.

Once you accomplish that you can start to tackle the questions of whether to re-sign head coach John Hynes, or whether it's worth the money to hold on to free agent Filip Forsberg. Either way, the Preds need to get some young talent as a stable core.

SPOON, from page 1
press charges and was compensated handsomely. Reid's spot on the Privilege List was revoked, and he was awarded five demerits.

The reigning champion Travis Swafford had this to say about the competition: "Winning the assassin game was not only invigorating, but also enlightening. I now understand

my true skill set and look forward to pursuing a career as a contract killer. THANKS MBA!" He beat the odds and bested Simon Buenahora in the final circle, winning the three round series 2-0.

While the Spoon Game has concluded, there is another Assassin game that is yet to be played. This

game interchanges spoons for nerf guns and takes place off campus. Teams of four compete, again, for glory, aiming to take out one team at a time. There are evidently two strategies: have each of your team members consolidated into one area or city, so they can respond quickly if a crisis arrives, or have your team

spread out over a larger area in order to have a man in every corner. Both are viable options, but it may not matter. Once someone is in your house, there may be no time to call for backup, and you must die a hero's death.

MLB, from Page 20
will now be paid more once they enter the league. The infield shift will be banned as early as next season. Pitch clocks are being tested at the triple-A level to determine if they could be used in the MLB. The MLB and MLBPA have agreed to reach an agreement regarding the international draft this summer.

The MLB avoided a major catastrophe with the last-minute decisions made by the new CBA, and

now we, the fans, can sit back and relax until either another lockout or another cheating scandal.

I take that back, thanks to the Yankees.

could have anticipated. The only light came from the massive LED screen where one name, and one name only flashed: "DJ WHO." Two surprisingly old men were on the stage, one on crowd control, and the other on vibe curation.

Large crowds of students poured into the center and shuffled out toward the dance floor, captivated by the EDM Justin Bieber remixes blaring over the speakers. The loud music blasted throughout the room, filling all the students with a deep sense of enthusiasm. One senior described the experience as an event that "makes you want to curl up in a ball out of excitement." Boys rapidly removed their hot and constricting bow ties, suspenders, cummerbunds, and jackets and began to let their energy fly out of their bodies as they excitedly moved about the dance floor. Even the awkward ones, pretending to be invested in March Madness in the shadows of the corners of the room, made their way into the pit.

The most spectacular part of the entire set up was waiting for the attendees as they entered. The 360 selfie experience was positioned at the entrance, perfectly primed for maximum humiliation. students experienced second-hand

embarrassment as they watched attendees stand awkwardly in the machine as the camera spun around them.

Dates instantly and mutually ditched each other for their respective friends as they observed the pristine set. Suddenly, they heard the opening horns of Lil Nas X's "Industry Baby" play. Every boy within ten miles of the Burk was drawn toward the sound like a zombie hoard, pouring into the pit from all sides. After a couple rounds of call and response with his own name, DJ Who announced that it was 10:00 p.m. and students were allowed to leave. Despite the cash incentives at stake for remaining at the dance, the majority of attendees mindlessly drifted away, having exhausted themselves from jumping up and down. Somberly, students, collecting their scattered garments and preparing to leave, found either the date they brought to prom or the date that someone else brought and walked out the door for a restful and relaxing evening.

The community enjoyed MBA prom, as it was an incredible experience, and everyone who worked on it did an amazing job. We would like to also give a special thanks to Sullivan and the rest of the junior officers.

HONEY BEARS, from Page 14
day.

Class Meeting:
The class meeting also had its similarities yet also possessed its distinctive differences. Held in the dining hall where noise often swells in a cacophonous manner, the noise was kept to a minimum.

The class meeting certainly lacked the adversarial relationship that is so pervasive at our own beloved meetings. Order was maintained without much fuss and each incredible Winterim trip (the subject of this particular meeting) was shown off in turn to wonder and excitement to all the Juniors and Sophomores in attendance.

Those present managed to maintain focus for the entirety of the hour over which the meeting took place. I know that sixty-minute time length sounds like a horrible nightmare to many readers, but the girl seemed to suffer through it without much fuss.

Overall, the day trip to Harpeth Hall offered up an entirely new perspective on what exactly our "sister school" even is. Thankfully, I can say without a doubt that there is a newfound respect and appreciation for what it means to be a Honey Bear, but at the end of the day, I would have to stick with MBA exclusively for the lunches.

Freshman Battle Through Fourth Quarter

By Jack Farringer
Staff Writer

Two weeks. Just two more weeks until school ends. It is only a matter of time before we will find ourselves doing what we enjoy most: studying for exams.

But, before that time comes, we still need to get through the fourth quarter, which, at least in my opinion, has been the best yet. It started off with a bang as the Cardinal team yet again demolished the Silver team on Field Day. I can proudly proclaim that the Cardinal win was 100% my

doing because I scored six points for Cardinal's B basketball team in our loss to Silver.

This quarter has also seen great performances by freshmen in sports. Freshmen Jack Wallace and Walker Pierce helped secure MBA its sixth consecutive City Championship on the track, and, only three days later, the rest of the freshmen on the track team won the Freshman City Championship for the first time in five years. I know that the baseball, lacrosse, and soccer teams have gotten off to pretty good starts, and I wish them the best of luck for the rest of their seasons. The crew

team recently got second at a regatta and hopefully more positive results will follow as they finish out their season.

The fourth quarter has, however, not been without its issues. The bursting of a water pipe and, most recently, a brief power outage are, of course, the fault of class president Elias Franks, who just got re-elected to this post. He once again made very ambitious campaign promises, even though some of the promises he made in the last election have yet to be fulfilled. In that same election, John Howard dethroned incumbent Tommy

Bartholomew to win the coveted office of vice president.

Just last weekend, Endada, MBA's annual music and arts festival, took place. I had a great time eating french toast from Tri-Star Stix, a stand run by freshmen Charlie Kilburn, Frank Johns, and Thompson Adams, and listening to the band Snow Day, which is led by freshmen Lorenzo Siragusa, Ethan Durham, and Roc Bueno.

With our last theme complete, we are truly on the home-stretch. Finish it strong. I'm rooting for you.

Sophomores Compete with APUSH Exam

By Luke Keller
Staff Writer

Sophomores can see the light at the end of the tunnel. As of this writing, we have less than one week of full school days left. With the AP US History exam behind us, a great burden has been lifted off of the backs of many. Backpacks are about ten pounds lighter, and the stress of

a "Pop-Quiz is Possible" from Dr. Bailey has been alleviated. At this point, most classes are starting to wind down, and focus is being shifted to the exam.

In terms of recent athletics, JV lacrosse had a strong finish to the season. The JV baseball team was dominant this year, taking home the JV Championship. After winning the City, the track team is looking to keep

the momentum going into Regions this week. Varsity lacrosse and baseball are both entering their state tournaments, so make sure to show out to those playoff games.

On a separate note, 2022's NFL Draft was a catastrophic day for Tennesseans. The AJ Brown trade might go down as the most unpopular trade in Titans history. I will never be able to forget the look of pure sorrow

in Benton Brown's eyes when the news broke. He proceeded to spend the next five minutes in silent denial, possibly the longest Benton has ever gone without talking. Undoubtedly, Coach Moran was devastated by the news, as the trade rendered his recently purchased AJ Brown jersey useless.

Let's have a strong finish to the year and a good summer.

Juniors Fail To Submit Class News, Instead Opt to Study for AP Exams and Fret about all the College Visits They Need to Schedule

Seniors Fight Urge to Sleep Through Fifth Period

By Jack Keller
Editor-in-Chief

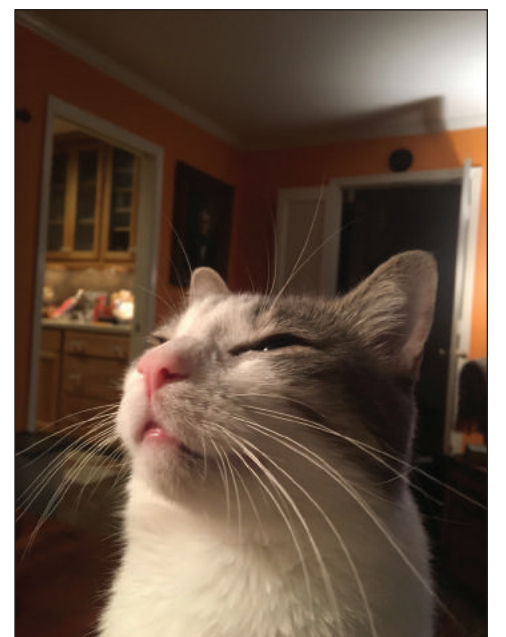
Well, AP Exams are officially over (as of 12:00 p.m. today when the brave Physics II students meet their maker), and to be perfectly honest, I have no idea what to do with my time now. This late in the year, there are some common themes evident throughout any given senior's day.

If you walk into the Student Center, no matter the period, odds are you will find either Nicky Bennett or Rowan Chacko taking a power nap in those comfy chairs. If you visit the lunch hall during break, Joe Grant will already have his Nintendo Switch set up, playing Super Smash Bros, with five people waiting in line for their try at three stock glory.

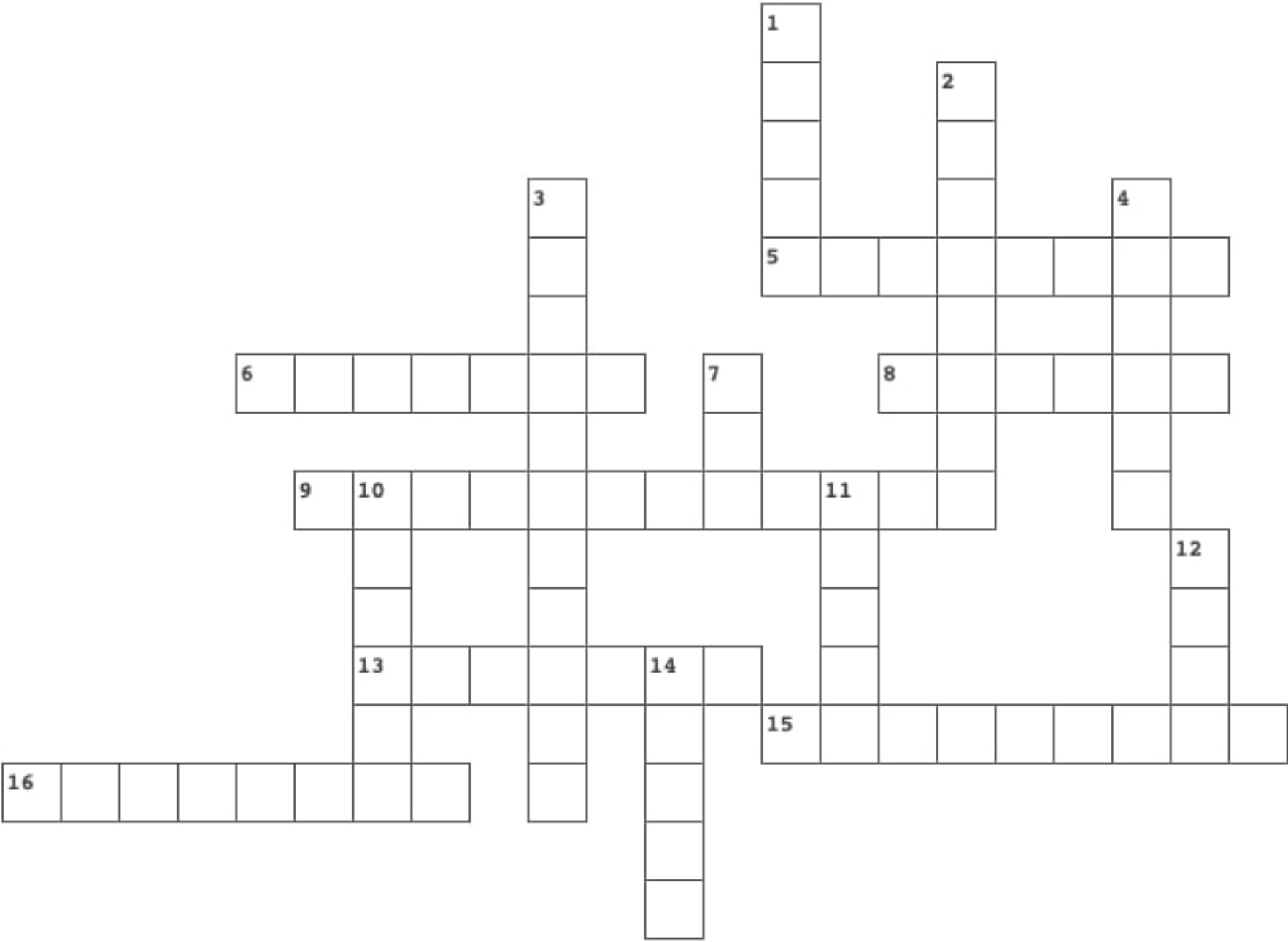
The point is, without the pressure from exams looming over our spring semester and graduation inching closer than ever, seniors are really starting to take time to enjoy themselves during the school day. Personally, I have noticed that there are no more Sunday Scaries because my Monday schedule hardly differs from my Sunday schedule. In other news, although many may have forgotten, the second game of Senior Assassin is indeed still going. Seniors Reid Smith and J.C. Gardner have been at a quiet standstill for what seems like weeks now. Either their truce transcends the glory of winning the Spoon Game, or they just don't want to speak up and admit that they were never eliminated.

Either way, spring sports have been

going exceptionally well for the senior class. Matthew Hyde recently broke an MBA school record with a six foot seven inch high jump. It baffles me to think that he can jump the equivalent of two Sam Elasy's stacked on top of each other. Takis Patikis has been chipping away at a few school records himself, competing in the decathlon, with a side hobby of burger chef at the Grill and Chill Club's events. Finally, the lacrosse team will be traveling out to play McCallie in the lacrosse semi-finals today! Wish them luck if you can. I think I speak for everyone when I say that graduation's being on the horizon still does not feel real, and I hope our last days as MBA students will be cherished by all.



Crossword: End of Year Edition



Across:

- 5. Commencement speaker
- 6. Recently resuscitated MBA sports club
- 8. Winner of the Founder’s Day race
- 9. Room stolen from seniors for AP exams
- 13. Senior spoon game name
- 15. MBA’s visting author
- 16. Broke MBA track (and field) record

Down:

- 1. Bane of students’ existence in May
- 2. The ‘A’ in CARPE Day
- 3. Recent near-Apocalypse event at MBA
- 4. Junior school service trip destination
- 7. Prom DJ ?
- 10. MBA’s festival that sounds like a baby noise
- 11. Cello recitalist
- 12. Broke MBA (track and) field record
- 14. Recent Islamic studies club break-fast